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Stampede: a panic-stricken crowd of ANC demonstrators fleeing as Ciskei troops opened fire on them at an anti-government rally in the homeland's capital, Bisho, yesterday

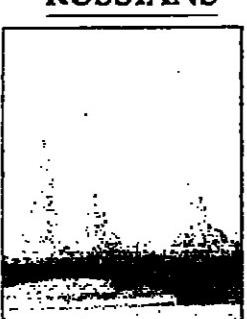
TODAY IN
THE TIMES

SOOTHING
BY SATIRE



A vicious cartoon
can be a godsend
to a politician
Life & Times, page 1

RAVING BY
RUSSIANS



Discovering
Assid Khaus
in St Petersburg
Page 9

TYPING
BY TV



Television will help
stereotypes to last
longer than borders
Life & Times, page 5

Troops kill 28 at ANC protest rally

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN BISHO, CISKEI

AT LEAST 28 people died and nearly 200 were injured when Ciskei armed forces opened fire yesterday on a march of 70,000 ANC-led demonstrators seeking to occupy Bisho, the capital of the black independent homeland.

The troops fired on marchers who allegedly charged them outside the Bisho stadium, where the ANC had a judge's permission to stage a rally against Brigadier Gqozo, Ciskei's military ruler.

The protesters were demanding the removal of Brigadier Gqozo, who seized power two years ago, and the return of Ciskei to South Africa.

A group of marchers streaked away from the main body of the march into the stadium. Some ran through the stadium and out the other side, the incident which appeared to start the firing. Ciskei troops began shoot-

ing in all directions, some towards the stadium, some towards the South African border, though whether in panic or under orders was unclear.

For five minutes the troops, in helmets and full battle dress, kept up a fusillade, while marchers and reporters threw themselves face down on the tarmac of the road or the dry earth of the veld.

I saw a journalist, close to a roll of barbed wire which marked the border, hit by a ricochet shrapnel fragment, but he was only slightly hurt.

As the firing subsided, the cries of the wounded were heard, and wailing began among those marchers whose friends and colleagues lay bleeding. Four young men, whose bodies lay in the stadium, some had been shot in the back as they had run from the guns. Another six lay in the road close to the barbed wire. Two more corpses were

pulled in from the veld with dry grass clogging their wounds.

The stadium had been the target of a similar march a month ago, when a previous confrontation had been defused by the skilled intervention of negotiators from the peace secretariat and a United Nations monitor.

"We are blaming De Clerk for this and we do it without hesitation," said Cyril Ramaphosa, secretary-general of the ANC. He said that the South African president had been warned to keep Brigadier Gqozo under control. "We believe it was within his power to do so. Ciskei is a creation of the apartheid regime and they are responsible for the atrocities committed in his name," Mr Ramaphosa said.

Brigadier Marius Oelschig, the Ciskei defence chief, said Ciskei troops had returned fire when attacked with grenades and handguns. South

Africa said it was sending troops to Ciskei to guard important installations from "retaliatory attacks".

The Ciskei violence deals a further serious blow to efforts to revive stalled negotiations on multiracial government.

"The killing of 28 people will surely have a bearing on the negotiation process. We cannot continue as though files have died," Mr Ramaphosa said.

He added however that if the de Klerk government took action to remove Brigadier Gqozo "that will make the negotiation process easier". ANC officials described the killings as "a real atrocity". Gqozo intended to kill people," said Mr Ramaphosa.

Ronnie Kasrils, the ebullient hardline leader of the South African Communist Party, who was among the first in the stadium before the shooting began, said afterwards: "This has precipitated a crisis in the South African government. This talk of peace is not going down with our people while war is being waged on them all over South Africa. There will be a very powerful reaction throughout South Africa to this bloodshed."

Mr Kasrils announced just before the firing started: "It's a cinch. We are just going to march into the CBD." (the central business district of the little capital, which the troops were protecting). A few minutes later the marchers reached the barbed wire.

This had become possible because an increase in visitors since the controversial decision in June to close had generated an extra £500,000 in revenue and brought about a break-even in their running costs.

Several proposals for the development and future character of the zoo are under consideration.

Foreign firms' verdict awaited on BAe future

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE future of thousands of British Aerospace jobs will be decided on September 23 when John Cahill, BAe chairman, announces whether the engineering conglomerate has found a buyer for its regional aircraft division.

Buyers from Taiwan and America have been sought for the division, which builds such aircraft as the 146 "whisper jet", the propeller-driven ATP, the Jetstream commuter plane and the 125 business jet in plants at Hatfield, Chester, Manchester and Prestwick.

If no buyer is found, closure is believed to be the likely option. The opinion yesterday at Farnborough, Europe's premier air show, was that the aircraft, the last truly British

ish commercial planes being built, would have ceased production or be foreign-owned long before the next show.

Mr Cahill will announce the future for the regional aircraft division with BAe's results on September 23. They are expected to show a sharp worsening of the £37 million loss in BAe's regional aircraft sector in 1991.

Since Mr Cahill joined BAe in the spring, he has been attempting to set up collaborative ventures to continue producing aircraft in a tough market. BAe's involvement in the Airbus will not be affected and defence projects, which made £500 million last year, are unlikely to be sold off.

Full details, page 15

London zoo will stay open

BY NICHOLAS WATT

THE on-off saga of London zoo's survival appeared to have come to a happy end last night when the council of the Zoological Society of London announced it was lifting its decision to close.

This had become possible because an increase in visitors since the controversial decision in June to close had generated an extra £500,000 in revenue and brought about a break-even in their running costs.

Several proposals for the development and future character of the zoo are under consideration.

Full details, page 2

Mr Major yesterday

called on Euro-sceptics

to bury their doubts

and back the Maastricht treaty.

He reiterated his view that it represented the best way forward for Britain and Europe and argued that it was a fightback

against Brussels centrism.

The train could be diverted,

but it could not be derailed, he told those Conservatives

arguing for the scrapping of

Maastricht and a "fresh

start". He derided as "phantoms"

the fears raised by Barone

s Thatcher and others of

a loss of national identity if

Maastricht went ahead,

although he called on his fellow

leaders in Europe to address

those fears.

Mr Major said: "The reality

is that no nation's identity

will ever be lost. Whatever

happens in the Community,

the French will be no less

French, the Germans no less

German, the Danes no less

Danish and — I promise you

— the British no less British."

But Tory divisions were

once again emphasised as

critics of the treaty called for

a referendum in Britain while

one, Richard Shepherd, the

MP for Aldridge Brownhills,

accused Mr Major of running

away from debate and of

a "major deceit". Paddy

Ashdown, leader of the

Liberal Democrats, said that

Mr Major had "at last nailed

his colour to the European mast"

and urged him to face down

the critics in his own party.

Aides said that Mr Major

had toiled longer and harder

on this address than on almost

any in his career. What he produced was a careful

balancing act, arguing that

Maastricht was the best way

forward, but not the only one,

and emphasising that it could

only happen if it were agreed

by all 12 EC nations, including

Denmark as well as France.

Mr Major, who yesterday

met Uffe Ellemann-Jensen,

the Danish foreign minister,

to hear of Denmark's plans

Major urges Euro-sceptics to bury doubts

BY ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

JOHN Major yesterday

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Aides said that Mr Major

London zoo's council drops its decision to close

By NICHOLAS WATT

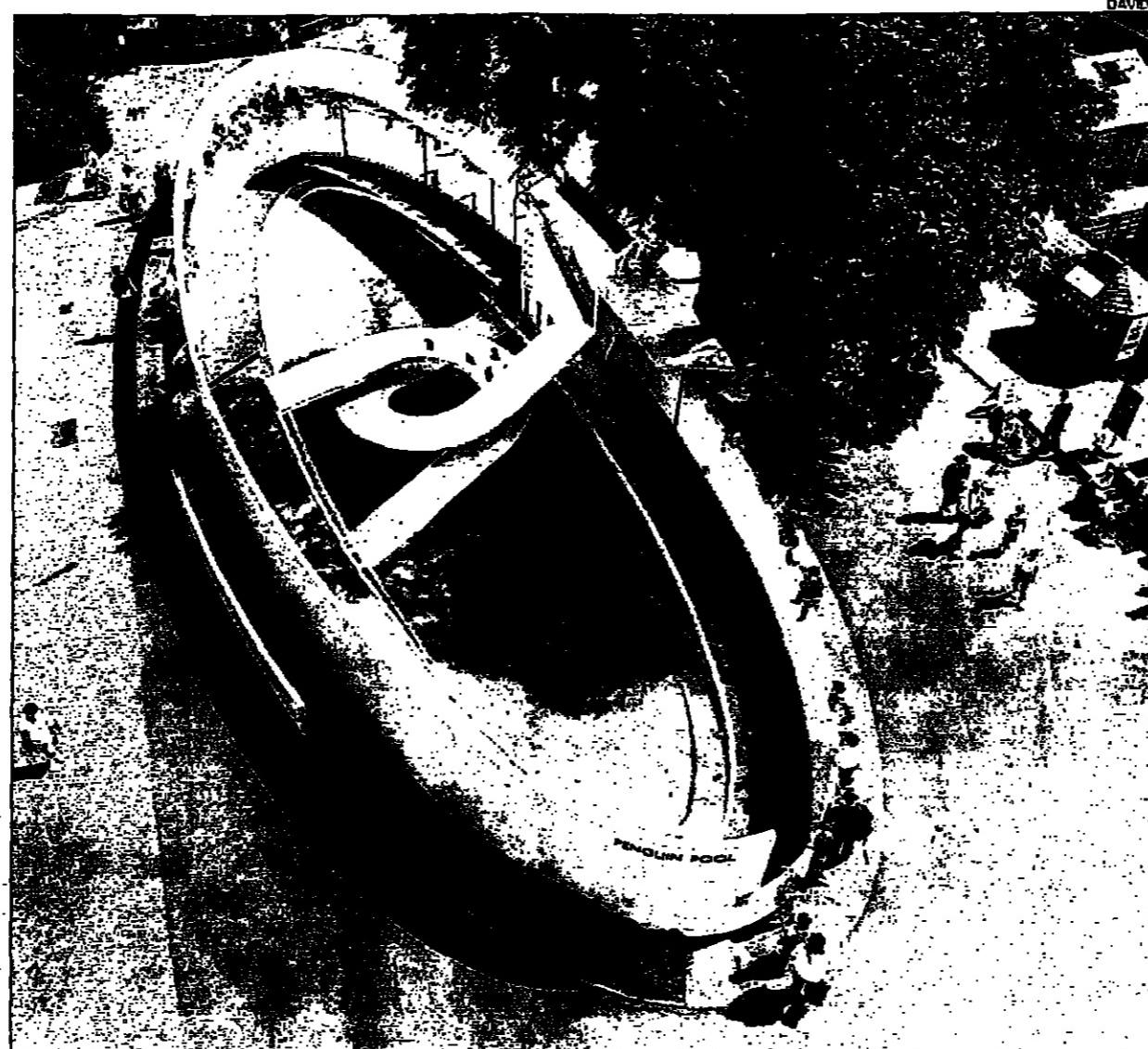
LONDON Zoo's ruling council agreed yesterday to lift its decision to close the zoo at the end of the month. The council examined plans to ensure the zoo's survival and one will be chosen next month.

Sir John Chapple, president of the Zoological Society of London, said he was delighted with the decision. "This is more than a stay of execution. We have not qualified our decision. The zoo can remain open because of the great efforts of our staff, our friends and the society's fellows."

He said increased visitors to the zoo since the decision to close in June had generated £500,000 in additional revenues. "The Save Our Zoo campaign has brought in £300,000, and of course we have the generous £1 million gift from the Emir of Kuwait."

Sir John said two of the plans being examined would allow the zoo to continue in its present form for two years while the proposals were put into place. "We are not out of the woods but we are confident that these proposals are in line with the mission statement of the zoo."

The council has set up a committee to look at the proposals in detail before a decision is reached next month. Although there are at



Reopened: visitors to London zoo watching the inmates of the penguin pool enclosure yesterday

least five proposals on the table senior sources in the society indicated last night that three were being studied seriously.

The first is a £17.5 million management plan being drawn up by Jo Gipps, the zoo's chief executive. John Barrington-Johnson, chairman of the assessment group, said: "This plan would develop the Mappin Terraces and bring back bears to London after they were taken out seven years ago. There would also be an African area in the old giraffe house, which would illustrate how man has got to work together with animals on that continent."

The second proposal, a staff buy-out, would be similar to the management plan although it would involve outside consultants, Mr Barrington-Johnson said.

The last of the main proposals is a £6.1 million plan from David Laing, from the construction family. The proposal would involve an aquarium and a new pavilion that would house three types of rainforest. Ronel Lehmann, Mr Laing's spokesman, said last night: "The news that the zoo will stay open is excellent and will let the council make up its mind on the future in a sensible way. We are cautious-

ly optimistic that our plan to turn the zoo into an ecological park will succeed."

In spite of yesterday's decision the zoological society is still divided over the management's performance. In July the society voted overwhelmingly for the management to resign and next week the result of a postal ballot on

whether the fellows support the council will be announced.

John Edwards, the only council member to vote against the decision in June to close the zoo, said: "The decision is better than a stay of execution. Let us say it is like being out on parole." Colin Tudge, a founder member of the dissident fellows' reform

group, said: "I am delighted. The proposals are in line with the zoo's function to be a serious scientific centre. The society is moving ahead with important constitutional reforms but the result of the ballot will be important."

Visitors to the zoo were delighted with the decision. Peter Lever, 47, from Guild-

ford, thought he was making his last visit to the zoo. "It is excellent news. The only thing is that sometimes the zoo has an old and decrepit look and it needs several million pounds pumped into it."

Pai Gabriel, 58, a gatekeeper, said: "I am very pleased to hear the news. I hope it stays open for a long time."

London boroughs face shortfall in council tax

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

London and the south will suffer most from unexpected shortfalls in revenue when the new council tax comes into operation next April, a survey by the Labour party showed yesterday.

Some councils have found that the tax will rise up to 22 per cent less in their area than they thought. The news is expected to prompt ministers to consider reintroducing the old "rates equalisation scheme" under which poorer areas were compensated by the wealthier ones for having a smaller than average tax base.

Jack Straw, the shadow environment secretary, said miscalculations on the size of the local tax base were among the reasons the government would have to find billions as a sweetener to avoid bills being significantly higher than expected.

Mr Straw published a com-

prehensive study that confirmed big variations between the original government estimates of what the council tax would raise in individual areas and the revised Inland Revenue estimates.

He said he suspected the original estimates were "massaged" because ministers were desperate to imply that the council tax would be far better than the poll tax.

The survey compared the government estimate of April 1991 with the figures that have emerged since the valuations were lodged with the councils last week. The Inland Revenue figures are, however, based on the value of properties as of April 1991, since when the property market has continued to slump. Mr Straw said there was a "further nightmare" on the way for the government when people received details of their tax

bands and compared them with the prices at which houses were selling in their areas.

The biggest losers from the valuation are the London boroughs of Hackney, which will rise 22.4 per cent less than expected, Greenwich (20.1 per cent), Lewisham (17.5 per cent), and Tewkesbury (17.5 per cent). Those that will receive more income than the original estimates suggested are the Isles of Scilly (29.5 per cent up), Ryedale (21.6 per cent) and Scarborough (20 per cent).

Overall, the inner London tax base is 8.5 per cent smaller than expected, and the metropolitan councils are down by 4 per cent. Nationally, the council tax base is 1.8 per cent lower than last year's estimate, but Mr Straw said the figure disguised much bigger problems at the local level, many of them in Conservative areas.

Handel fanfare for FM

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A TRUMPET blast from Handel's *Coronation Anthem* at 6am yesterday heralded the debut of Classic FM, BBC Radio's first national commercial competitor in 70 years (Melinda Wittstock writes).

But the station's launch was nearly spoilt by BT, which seven hours before had threatened to keep it off the air because of a contractual dispute. BT warned Classic FM executives at 11pm on Sunday that unless the station signed a transmission contract, its airwaves would fall silent.

Michael Burkhardt, the programme controller better known as the BBC2 chef Michael Barry, said: "It was unbelievable. What were they trying to say? That we wouldn't pay the bills?"

BT would not comment but is understood to have relented when it realised the backlash that might result.

Classic, which promises its listeners "classical music dressed by Benetton" between 100 and 102 on the FM frequency, is broadcasting "brisk arias" in the mornings and at drive-time, with longer works in the day and at night.

One Granada programme head said: "There has been a resounding chorus of 'Charles who?' The jury is still out about what it means, but there is considerable concern that someone with no background in television should be put in charge of running the most senior ITV company in the network. He doesn't know zip."

about television."

When Mr Plowright was forced to resign last February from his £145,000-a-year job, 1,000 Granada employees signed a petition in protest. Six key executives including David Liddiment, head of entertainment, Ray Fitzwalters, head of current affairs, and Sally Head, head of drama, said they feared that Mr Robinson would squeeze more profits from Granada Television, cutting programme budgets and increasing efficiency.

Mr Allen, brought in by Mr Robinson to run Granada Leisure eight months ago, is said to have a reputation for "helping people through periods of change".

A Granada Group spokesman said last night: "Mr Allen, a regular *Coronation Street* viewer, is said to have a high regard for Granada Television and wishes to 'keep the talented team together'."

When Mr Quinn's appointment as ITV chief executive was announced last month it had been assumed that either Malcolm Wall, Granada TV's head of sales, or Steve Morrison, its head of programmes, would get the chief executive post.

□ The BBC should rely on its broadcasters rather than its bureaucrats to win public support for continuance of the licence fee, Simon Albury, former director of the Campaign for Quality Television said yesterday.

Media, L&T section, page 7

New Granada boss is in first TV job

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A businessman with no experience in television has been forced to resign last February from his £145,000-a-year job. Charles Allen, 35, is to take over the post held for years by David Plowright.

Mr Plowright's forced dismissal last February led to industry protests that Granada's long tradition of producing high-quality television would be jeopardised by a new commercial ethic.

Granada will announce today that Mr Allen, former managing director of catering company Compass Services, will replace with immediate effect Andrew Quinn, who was last month appointed ITV's first chief executive.

Eight months ago Mr Quinn replaced Mr Plowright, who was forced to resign after a boardroom dispute over cost-cutting with Gerry Robinson, chief executive of Granada Group.

Last night Granada staff had not been told about the appointment. But senior executives said privately that they were "deeply shocked" and "perplexed" that Granada should not want to hire someone with some experience in television.

One Granada programme head said: "There has been a resounding chorus of 'Charles who?' The jury is still out about what it means, but there is considerable concern that someone with no background in television should be put in charge of running the most senior ITV company in the network. He doesn't know zip."

Media, L&T section, page 7

Soldiers barred from Cypriot resort

Hundreds of service personnel from three units based in Cyprus have been banned from the holiday resort of Ayia Napa for a week after a number of alleged violent incidents (Michael Evans writes). A full investigation is being carried out by both military and civilian authorities. Cyprus police said they arrested four British soldiers in the resort, which is popular with young holidaymakers from Britain. Two were charged and released while two were held in custody.

The police said two of the soldiers were involved in a fight with Cypriots after a tourist was beaten. In another incident, police said they were attacked by soldiers when they tried to arrest a serviceman who had stripped naked. A spokesman for the British forces in Episkopi — Britain's western sovereign base on the Mediterranean island — said there were four separate and unrelated incidents in the resort in the early hours of Saturday. The units affected by the ban are the 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, an RAF signals unit and a troop of Royal Engineers. The 1st Battalion Royal Irish Regiment is not banned.

Although the incidents involved only a minority of service personnel, Air Vice-Marshal Sandy Hunter, commander of British forces, imposed the ban as a warning. About 5,000 military personnel are based in Cyprus, including 800 serving with the United Nations peacekeeping force.

Double killer jailed

A husband who stabbed to death his wife and her lover when he caught them having sexual relations in his home was jailed for seven years yesterday. Leslie Tobutt peered through the window and saw his wife, Kate, and her lover, Noel Neville, on an armchair in the living room. As he heard her joke about their marriage, Tobutt picked up a knife, stormed into the room and killed both of them. Tobutt, 42, an electronics engineer, admitted two charges of manslaughter at the Central Criminal Court, on the grounds of diminished responsibility. After hearing of a stormy ten-year marriage in which Tobutt was continually belittled for being passive and ineffectual, Judge Kenneth Machin, QC, jailed Tobutt, of Pinner, northwest London, for seven years. The judge said the case was a tragedy for the man, his two victims and the three young children of their marriage.

Abuse enquiry pledge

There will be a public enquiry into allegations of sexual and physical abuse of up to 200 children in council care in North Wales. Gwynedd Jones, the Welsh Office minister responsible for social services and health, said yesterday that the enquiry will take place after police investigations and any prosecutions. Huw Vaughan Thomas, chief executive of Gwynedd County Council, welcomed the announcement which comes after claims that photographs of a badly-beaten child were filed away by social services for at least six years without being passed to police. North Wales police are investigating homes in Gwynedd and Clwyd amid allegations of abuse cases dating back years. More than 1,500 statements have already been taken. The force confirmed allegations against police were being investigated.

Mellor stays silent



David Mellor, left, the national heritage secretary, yesterday dismissed new claims about his alleged relationship with an actress when he visited Hagley Hall, near Birmingham, to chair a meeting of EC culture ministers. At a press conference he said: "I am not going to get sucked into a circulation war between *The Sun* and the *Daily Mirror*. I shall maintain my silence on the matter."

Rover cuts car prices

Rover yesterday cut car prices by up to £1,000 to match rivals Ford and Vauxhall — with further reductions promised. Rover has cut an average of 7 per cent off all new models except the 800 limousine, and the company expects dealers to cut prices even further to shift stock now sitting in showrooms. At the weekend Ford knocked up to £1,000 off its cars, while Vauxhall cut the cost of Novas and Cavaliers by up to £1,150. Rover, which was hit by an August sales slump of 5,000 cars, has cut production of the Mini, Metro and 200 and 400 Series saloons. The reductions mean £517 off a Mini, bringing it down to £6,415, £750 off a Metro, which is now £8,550. £830 off a 214Si, now £10,000, almost £1100 off a 420GSi and from £780 to £960 off Maestros and Montegos.

Builders hit again

The recession in the building industry is deepening according to figures yesterday showing a further fall in applications for planning permission received by councils (Douglas Broom writes). In the first quarter of 1992 district and metropolitan councils in England received 126,000 planning applications, 1 per cent down on the same quarter last year. The number of applications has fallen in each of the past 11 quarters. Applications for new housebuilding declined by councils fell by 7 per cent.

□ Council tenants who want to run their own estates can take government-subsidised courses in housing management. Sir George Young, the housing minister, announced. Tenants on 56 estates were now managing for themselves and more than 90,000 homes were involved in schemes.

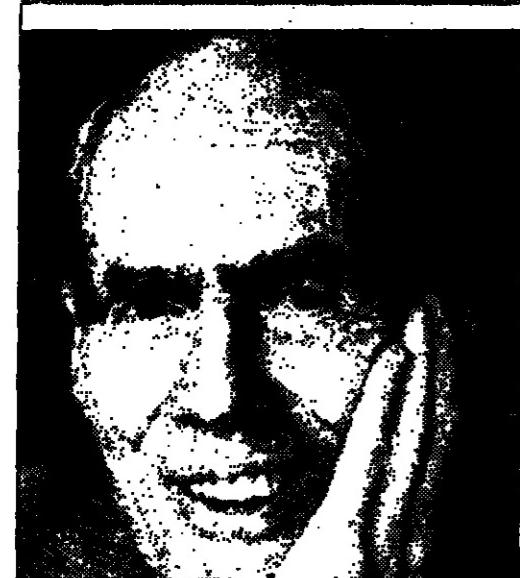
Gambler denies theft

A professional gambler who won and lost huge amounts in casinos on one night losing £1.1 million, vowed a rich American businesswoman for her money, Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday. Yona Bettou, 39, met Nicole Dubois, 37, on a flight from Paris to London, sent flowers to her hotel room, took her to the theatre and wined and dined her. Nicholas Coleman, for the prosecution, said that Mr Bettou claimed to be a commodity trader and that he managed a £500-million investment fund for the Saudis. But Israeli-born Mr Bettou divided his time between the gambling tables of London and Paris, Mr Coleman said. Mr Bettou denies three charges of obtaining property by deception and three of theft between December 1990 and February 1991. The case continues today.

'Living will' launched

The first "living will" designed for people with HIV and AIDS-related illnesses was launched yesterday, allowing patients to state whether or not they want their lives prolonged by doctors (Alison Roberts writes). The will, which takes effect only if a patient becomes unable to take part in decision-making, states his or her wishes about medical treatment at the end of life. It can request treatment to keep the signature alive for as long as possible, or it can ask for all treatment to be stopped. The legal status of the will, drawn up by the Terence Higgins Trust, the AIDS charity, and the Centre of Medical Law and Ethics at King's College, London, is at present unclear. However, Andrew Grubb, reader in medical law at the King's College centre, said that a first test case might well make the will legally binding.

Please help us to continue the work of Leonard Cheshire



"In war he was a hero, in peace he served his nation no less well"

John Major, Prime Minister

After the Second World War, Leonard Cheshire dedicated his life to disabled people throughout the world and international disaster relief. Please help us continue his work by sending a donation today.

The late Group Captain Lord Cheshire, VC, OM, DSO, DFC who died on 31st July this year.

I would like to help continue the work of Leonard Cheshire

I am sending my donation today of: £100 £50 £25 £10 £..... other (please specify)

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Please make your cheque/postal order payable to The Cheshire Commemorative Fund and send: c/o The Leonard Cheshire Foundation, Freepost, London SW1P 2Y2. (If you use a stamp this will save us money) or call free on: 0800 585 902

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Address:
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I would like information on how I can make a donation worth more at no extra cost to me. Please send me a Covenant Form Gift Aid Form (for donations over £400)
Donations will be directed to the work of The Leonard Cheshire Foundation, Sue Ryder Foundation, The Ryder Cheshire Mission and The World Memorial Fund for Disaster Relief.

By NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY
CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S forests could become clogged with dead leaves and its timber trees starved of essential nutrients if the decline of Europe's fungi remains unchecked. Almost every forest tree depends on fungi to assist roots in extracting moisture and nutrients from the soil.

Botanists at the XI Congress of European Mycologists at Kew Gardens, west London, said yesterday that many species of scientific, ecological and economically important fungi were becoming increasingly rare in Europe. Dr Bruce Ing of the British Mycological Society, said that over the past decade 2,000 of the 10,000-15,000 species of fungi in Europe have been identified as in decline or extinct. The Nail fungus, *Peronina*, which grows on horse dung, was once common across Britain but is now confined to the New Forest. Its decline has been linked to fewer horses and

the switch from natural feeding to hay and artificial feeds.

The most damaging impacts on fungi have been the sharp rise in air pollution and the turning over of sand dunes to recreation and leisure. Deforestation, draining lowland bogs, use of fertilisers and extensive grazing of grasslands were also contributing to the decline. Professor Solomon Wasser of the N.G. Khodolov Institute

of Botany in Kiev, said radioactive mushrooms were threatening the health of people in the independent state. Studies after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster of 1986 showed that some people were consuming amounts of radioactive caesium and potassium in the Penny Bun mushroom, a local and nutritious favourite, well over European Community limits.



Irish family suffers second double killing at UVF hands

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A ROMAN Catholic family from Moy, co. Tyrone, suffered its second double murder in nine months when a middle-aged couple were found shot dead at their isolated bungalow near the village yesterday.

Last night the Ulster Volunteer Force claimed responsibility for killing Charles Fox, 63, and his wife Teresa, 53, some time on Sunday night. In January the Foxes' son-in-law and his uncle were murdered during a shooting at a butcher's shop in the village, also carried out by the Ulster Volunteer Force.

According to police accounts, Mr and Mrs Fox were found dead on the floor of their kitchen by their two daughters, who called to see them yesterday morning. Police believe that a car found burning about a mile from the scene was used by the gunmen.

Officers were investigating a revenge theory for the murders by Loyalists following a series of threatening letters sent to Protestant business men in Moy by Republicans over the past few days, some of which contained bullets.

In January Kevin McKeown, the son-in-law of Mr and Mrs Fox, became the first victim of the troubles this year when he was shot dead at the family butcher's shop. John McKeown, his uncle, who was seriously injured in the attack, died three months later in hospital.

Last week Patrick Daniel Fox, one of the victims' sons, was sentenced to 12 years'

imprisonment for possessing explosives at Dungannon, Co. Tyrone, in August 1990.

The Fox murders, which have been widely condemned, bring the yearly total to 63. Ken Maginnis, the Unionist MP for Fermanagh and South Tyrone, described the killings as a blasphemy before God and a "tragedy for our entire community".

The Archbishop of Armagh, the Most Rev Robert Barnes, said the killings were a barbarous taking of life. "Once more the evil of murder has visited the diocese of Armagh. No warped reasoning or excuse can possibly justify such a blasphemous action," he said.

In Belfast, at the funeral of a man shot dead by British soldiers at a checkpoint, a Catholic priest gave a warning that there should be no whitewash in the way the case was handled. Two Scots guardsmen, Mark Douglas Wright, 19, and James Fisher, 24, have been charged with the murder of Peter McBride, 18, who died in Belfast last Friday after allegedly running away from an army patrol.

Father Martin Kelly told mourners at Mr McBride's funeral that he was reassured that the soldiers had been charged, but added: "One would hope that the case will not end up as a whitewash, another exercise that serves only to deepen the wounds in our society."

Father Kelly criticised the army in Belfast, which he accused of harassment and bullying. "It is necessary to have an independent review of the policy, the training and the briefings these young men receive before they are sent, armed and poised for action, into a place like the New Lodge," he said.

□ The IRA yesterday claimed responsibility for the small bomb that exploded in a toilet at the London Hilton hotel near Hyde Park Corner over the weekend. No one was injured in the blast, which came after a warning that bombs had been left at hotels in Park Lane (Stewart Tendler writes).

The statement, issued in Dublin, criticised the police for not evacuating Park Lane hotels. Issued under the pseudonym of P. O'Neill, the statement read: "On this occasion they were fortunate that the explosive device was a relatively small one. In the future, playing with people's lives may lead to much more serious consequences."

The bomb exploded after several warnings had been made, including one telephoned to the NSPCC's freephone line. After the explosion police defended their decision not to evacuate hotels, saying that there was a risk that fresh bombs might have been left in cars or packages outside the hotels as an ambush.

An ITN spokeswoman said yesterday that the operation was carried out a month ago at the Charing Cross Hospital in west London. "We wish Julia a speedy recovery. We have not got a precise date for her return but she will be given as much time as she needs," the spokesman added.

Few people working for Independent Television News knew of Ms Somerville's illness. The News At Ten presenter told senior editorial staff that she wanted her health problems kept as quiet as possible. She hopes to return to her job in a few months' time.

Ms Somerville, 45, was discharged from hospital three weeks ago, after spending a little over a week as an in-patient. She last appeared before the cameras in July.

Stewart Purvis, ITN's editor-in-chief, yesterday praised the newscaster's unflinching professionalism. "The few of us who have known about the operation have been enormously impressed by the calm and courageous way in which Julia handled it. We expect to see her back on the screen in the autumn," he said.

Bob Phills, ITN's chief executive, said: "We all very much look forward to her return to work. Both she and Charing Cross Hospital have been quite magnificent throughout this ordeal. I just hope she is now allowed to be alone with her family, which will ensure the speediest possible recovery."



Knot before time: pupils at Uppingham School, Leicestershire, knotting up their new royal blue and white striped ties at the start-of-term assembly yesterday. They replace the dour black ties worn at the school as a sign of mourning since the death of Queen Victoria in 1901. Dr Stephen Winkley, the headmaster, said: "I thought the old ties were funeral, dreary and inappropriate to a school in the 1990s."

Driver may be prosecuted for death of baby born after crash

By JULIA LLEWELLYN SMITH AND RICHARD FORD

A BABY born by Caesarean section after her mother was killed in a road accident died in her father's arms yesterday.

Her death could lead to the driver of the car involved being prosecuted for her manslaughter or causing her death by dangerous driving.

In law, if a baby is delivered alive it is considered a person.

For a charge of manslaughter or death by dangerous driving to succeed, the prosecution needs to prove that the baby died of injuries sustained in the womb.

The girl, named Hannah, survived less than 36 hours and died from injuries she received before birth when her mother, Linda Wolage, 28, was hit by a car at Blackwater, Hampshire. Police are expected to question again the driver of the Ford Fiesta that hit Mrs Wolage and her husband Andrew a few yards from their terrace house as they returned from a trip to London Zoo to celebrate Mr Wolage's birthday.

The driver, Jill Gunn, 47, of Blackwater, who was cut from the wreckage of her car, was interviewed by police and released on bail after the accident on Saturday day night. She is alleged to have refused to provide specimens of breath or blood for an alcohol test.

Mrs Wolage was dead on arrival at Frimley Park Hospital at Camberley, Surrey. Doctors kept her on a life support machine until the baby, which was due in nine days, could be delivered. Mr Wolage, 28, who suffered a broken arm, a

broken leg and internal injuries, named his daughter Hannah.

Throughout Sunday she struggled for life on a respirator in a ward a few yards from where her father was recovering. Last night, Mr Wolage, a computer projects manager, was said to be in a comfortable condition. He had been sedated but was aware that his wife had died.

Christine Williams, head of midwifery at the hospital, said: "Obviously the father is distraught. Everyone here is devastated. The baby was critical and receiving intensive care from the moment she was born."

An inquest into the death of Mrs Wolage and her daughter was opened at North Hampshire Coroner's Court, Basingstoke, yesterday and adjourned until October 20.

The couple's first child died in December aged five months at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, London, after being born with a hole in the heart.

Under road traffic laws the driver could face charges relating to both Mrs Wolage and Hannah. The offence of causing death by dangerous driving carries a maximum five-year prison sentence and/or an unlimited fine, plus a minimum two-year driving ban and the mandatory retaking of the driving test. The new offence, which replaced causing death by reckless driving, requires that bad driving be demonstrated through its consequences rather than by establishing a driver's intention.

'Single travellers are overcharged'

By PETER VICTOR

LONE travellers are being overcharged on single supplements by package tour firms, *Holiday Which?* says. They also get cramped rooms, substandard restaurant service and are ignored by holiday representatives.

Tour operators claim that the supplements are simply charged levied by hoteliers concerned about restaurant and bar receipts dropping if they have too many single guests. The Consumers' Association says, however, that its research does not bear this out.

The association telephoned hotels directly to compare their prices and single room supplements with those charged by tour operators. In some cases there were huge discrepancies. The Hotel Melina in Paphos, Cyprus, was offering bed and breakfast twin rooms last month directly for £23.23 per person per night or a single room for £28.59. The difference for a single person would be £75.04 over a two-week holiday.

For the same hotel, Falcon, a tour operator, is charging a supplement of £119 over the two weeks and £161. Airtours £161.

Booking a room on half board at the Torviscas Playa Hotel in Playa de las Americas, Tenerife, last month, would cost £37.75 a night per person in a twin room or

New clue to fox man's murderer

By STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

DETECTIVES hope that a gold-coloured identity bracelet will lead to the killers of a man stabbed while walking in the woods with his wife to feed foxes. They released details yesterday of the bracelet, found where Robert Wignall, 55, a decorator, was murdered for no apparent reason close to his home at Addlestone, Surrey.

Det Supt Pat Crossan, leading the investigation, said the discovery of the lightweight bracelet was significant. It had been found near the scene. Mr Wignall was beaten and stabbed by three men he and his wife Sandra, 47, met on their way to leave food for foxes. Mr Crossan said: "This was a particularly vicious and brutal attack."

Mr Wignall was "charming, gracious, very well-mannered, a man of honour", Mr Crossan said. "It would seem Mr Wignall put up a struggle after being confronted by these men. They started shouting and pushing him and yelling. He encouraged his wife to run for it, she has told us. She was frightened and was unsure if she should stay or should go. He was clearly a man of honour. That was the calibre of the man, that he would think of his wife's safety at that time."



Drug suspect held after golfing test

By RAY CLANCY

AN ALLEGED drug smuggler who claimed he was entering Britain for a golfing holiday was arrested when he was asked by a customs officer to swing a six iron, Lewes Crown Court was told yesterday. Karl Melms's grip was

wrong so bad that suspicions were aroused.

Melms, 40, an hotelier from Bonn, was questioned when he arrived at Newhaven on a cross-channel ferry from Dieppe. He spoke little English and handed customs officers a note that said he was staying at the Wentworth golf hotel, Virginia Water, Surrey, Michael Brompton, for the prosecution, said.

Daryl Hickman, the officer on duty and a keen golfer,

asked Melms to open his car boot and found golf clubs inside. "I asked him what his handicap was and he didn't appear to understand. I took out a number six iron and asked him to show me his swing. He attempted to make a swing. He appeared to me to be someone who does not play the game," said Mr Hickman.

A thorough search of the car uncovered Moroccan cannabis resin worth £234,000. The drugs were found inside a sealed metal box hidden between the Audi's boot and the back seat.

Melms, who denies illegally importing drugs, claimed when he was arrested that he did not know the drugs were in the car. The trial continues today.

Chinese takeaway fined £44,500

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

TWO environmental health officers found unexpected extras on the menu when they called at the August Moon Chinese takeaway in Hungerford, Berkshire.

In the kitchen they found a mouse head and rat droppings among rotting food, while in cupboards there was a mulch of leaves, grease and dead insects.

The conditions led yesterday to fines of £44,500 for breaches of the 1970 Food Safety Act and costs of £1,306 against San Yau Wong, the restaurant owner, and his son Wai Yau Wong, the manager.

Magistrates also banned San Yau Wong from taking part in any food business after the court was told he had been fined £1,000 four years ago for insanitary conditions at the August Moon's sister restaurant of the same name in Newbury.

Last night the takeaway, in Hungerford High Street, was continuing to trade after a big clean-up. Customers were told: "We're open for business as normal. We've had a bit of trouble with the council but that's sorted out now. We've never been asked to close the takeaway down."

Environmental health officers, who found the conditions during a routine check in April, said the August Moon closed down briefly after being caught out by inspectors. John Partitt, environmental health manager for Newbury, said: "We had not received any complaints. The owner voluntarily closed it down while they complied with all the regulations, cleaned up and made the premises rodent-proof."

The officers said that conditions ranked among the worst they had seen and had no hesitation in recommending a prosecution. The court has seen fit to reflect increasing public concern over food safety."

Mr Wong senior pleaded guilty to 26 breaches of the Food Safety Act and was fined £28,500. His son faced 21 similar charges and was fined £16,000. They told the court they had been hit by the recession and that consequent lack of staff had led to difficulties in keeping to hygiene standards.

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THE GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND ASSOCIATION, HILLFIELDS, BURGHFIELD COMMON, READING, BERKS RG7 5YQ. TEL: 0734 835556.

Chemists blame Whitehall for failure to dump unwanted pills



Mawhinney: public must be protected

A £1 MILLION offer by the health department to help pharmacists dispose of unwanted medicines received a lukewarm reception yesterday at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's conference in Birmingham.

Pharmacists said that while the health department was promoting safe disposal, the environment department was making the process more difficult. Regulations issued in April lay a "duty of care" on any pharmacist offering to dispose safely of unwanted medicines.

David Coleman, president of the society, said that this meant that the pharmacist was expected to produce a detailed list of everything he was disposing of. "If somebody comes to you with 2,000 assorted white tablets, it's quite frankly impossible to analyse them all."

Since April, when the regulations

came into force, pharmacists' Dump schemes (disposal of unwanted medicines and poisons) had declined, he said. The change arose from the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and specified that schemes for collecting and disposing of medicines must be approved by local waste regulation authorities, which could insist on detailed consignment notes for each batch. Negotiations between the society and the environment department have taken place but have yet to reach a satisfactory outcome.

"For years, patients have been bringing us unwanted medicines — when something goes wrong, for example." Mr Coleman, a pharmacist at village of Stalham, Norfolk, said. "If we had a large amount of pills or medicines to dispose of, the local health authority would collect them and take them for disposal at an

Nigel Hawkes examines a dispute between ministers and pharmacists over the best way to empty Britain's bathroom cabinets

incinerator. Very small amounts we might simply flush away."

The nation's bathroom cabinets are littered with unwanted medicines, many of which are dangerous. The society estimates that every year 25,000 children under five are taken to hospital with poisoning caused by medicines and 13 die. In 1987 the National Poisons Information Service estimated that the cost to the health service of accidental poisoning was £2.5 million a year.

The recent white paper *Health of the Nation* sets a target of reducing accidental poisoning by a third by the year 2000. Brian Mawhinney,

British Pharmaceutical Society," a department spokesman said. "We are working closely with them and will listen closely to any representations they make about the environmental regulations."

In the past, the society has launched local schemes lasting a week or a fortnight, using the regional press to publicise them. Thousands of tons of medicines a year have been collected.

Since the medicines were reclassified as industrial waste, pharmacists had been very torn about what to do," Mr Coleman said. "In some cases, the local health authorities have devised ways of getting around the regulations, but that is really unsatisfactory. We want the two departments to knock a few heads together and come up with a solution. We said to the minister, 'Yes, fine, we're delighted to have £1 million, but the real

point is to get the regulations right so that pharmacists don't have to deal with a huge bureaucracy.' It's not really a matter of money, because we have disposed of medicines for our patients for nothing in the past. The point is to get it out of people's houses and dumped, and that won't be done by imposing impossible bureaucratic demands on pharmacists."

□ Dr Mawhinney later asked the pharmacists to play their part in the government's strategy to improve the nation's health. He asked them to draw up agreed aims for the profession. Ideally they would include a list of services offered to patients, how they would contribute towards health targets, a commitment to the patient's charter and performance-related pay. He was concerned at the cost of new drugs, claiming more could be done to use cheaper alternatives.

70% of parents help pay for text books at 'underfunded' schools

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

SEVEN out of ten parents are contributing to the cost of their children's school books, and nearly a third of schools say they have an inadequate supply of reading material, according to a new survey of more than 1,000 primary and middle schools in England and Wales.

The reading survey, conducted by the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, found that parents and other adults helped to buy books and other reading tools at 67 per cent of urban schools and at 84 per cent of rural schools. More than a quarter of the classes at the 1,146 schools responding had more than 30 pupils, a pressure which, the survey argues, frustrates the teaching of reading.

Nigel de Gruchy, the

union's general secretary, said yesterday that parents were bailing out schools while the government washed its hands of the problem. "One of the fundamental and essential characteristics of all methods of teaching reading is the availability of a sympathetic and skilled listener on a regular basis. This is important at all ages and levels of achievement in the primary school. Unfortunately, financial restrictions and the organisation of some schools militate against this need."

Margaret Tulloch, secretary of the Campaign for State Education, said the survey indicated the increasing dependence of schools upon parental generosity. "It shows that the quality of children's education depends upon their parents' ability to pay. We are now seeing people being prepared to buy books, when before they were not. The barriers are coming down about what parents feel it is right to pay for."

The Department of Education welcomed the evidence of parental contributions to schools' running costs, which, it said, should be seen in the correct perspective. "The government is aware that parents sometimes provide extra funds for schools, but such contributions need to be seen in context. These are sums at the margin," a spokeswoman said. Spending on books and equipment had risen by 38 per cent between 1980 and 1990, she said.

It was unjust for individual schools to frustrate local rationalisation plans, he said, citing the example of Beechen Cliff school, in Avon, which opted out in 1990 to avoid a change of status. He said: "As a result of that, the planned reorganisation of Bath education did not take place."

The old local education authorities, Mr Foster said, would be replaced by pared-down education departments staffed by elected councillors and responsible for strategic planning, quality control and arbitration of disputes. The new departments would also provide financial and legal support for pupils with special needs and nursery education for every child.

Mr Foster renewed his party's election call for a £2 billion investment in education over 12 months, funded if necessary by a penny on income tax, "to remedy the chronic underfunding of education". Council-controlled schools would enjoy greater financial freedom by an extension of the local management of schools policy, which Liberal Democrats claim they first devised.

The NAS/UWT survey will give unexpected comfort to educational traditionalists, who fear that the teaching of reading has fallen prey to progressive "child-centred" methods. The most popular single teaching method reported by the schools was traditional "phonics", which links signs to sounds. At the same time, more than 90 per

His murder was the culmination of a wave of violence that has swept the town, fuelled largely by drink and drugs. Chief Supt Michael Currie, commander of Strathclyde police's K Division, said that over a 24-hour period there had been 222 incidents reported to the division, and 87 arrests were made over the weekend. He said Operation Dove would continue.

Gordon McMaster, Labour MP for Paisley South, and Irene Adams, Labour MP for Paisley North, yesterday requested talks with Lord Fraser. They will be calling for even more police to be drafted into the town. "Things are now reaching crisis pitch and action has to be taken," said Mr McMaster.

George Farquharson, chairman of the local licensing board, said it would discuss withdrawing the licences of publicans whose premises had been used for drug offences. "Something will have to be done," he said. "Paisley is getting a worse reputation than Glasgow had."

BATS, are likely to be protected by law under a European bat agreement to be signed by every EC member country within the next two years, more than 200 academics and conservationists at the annual national bat conference at Stirling University were told at the weekend.

The impetus for the agreement, which will become enforceable throughout Europe, has come largely from Britain, where bats and their roosts have been protected since 1981.

There were no fewer than 15 species in Britain until this year, when the last remaining mouse-eared bat died. In recent years their decline has been accelerated due to the loss of roosts, as caves and tunnels have been blocked or disturbed by humans, woodland destroyed and buildings converted with toxic timber treatment.

The greater horseshoe bat has declined by 99 per cent this century, and numbers about 3,000. There are about 10,000 lesser horseshoe bats in Britain, but other species, such as Bechstein's bat and the Barbastelle variety, are in danger of disappearing.

Phil Richardson, of the Bat Conservation Trust, said: "The conference has brought together leading bat biologists, conservationists and some of the country's 2,000 amateur bat workers. It provides an opportunity for updating knowledge on current

Bats can look forward to fewer sleepless days under an EC protection plan, Kerry Gill reports



Greater horseshoe: only 3,000 left in Britain

research and resources." Mr Richardson hopes that increased publicity about bats will dispel some of the myths that surround the creatures.

All Britain's bats, for exam-



Rocking back the clock: Kate Clarke models a fifties rock and roll skirt and bobby socks yesterday, two samples of second-hand fashion from five decades that Oxfam is promoting in its shops to mark its fiftieth anniversary

Bats to get legal protection under European agreement

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LSE offers site for court use

BY DOUGLAS BROOM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE London School of Economics is discussing selling part of its site in central London for use by the High Court, to raise money for buying County Hall.

In the latest twist in the contest between the LSE and Shirayama, a Japanese hotel group, to buy the former home of the Greater London Council, LSE officials said that they would hold talks this week with officials of the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court.

They will discuss moving some courts and staff from the Royal Courts of Justice in the Strand, which face a growing caseload, to the LSE buildings in Houghton Street, off Aldwych. If the move goes ahead, the LSE hopes to sell the rest of the site to law firms.

A £65 million bid by the LSE for County Hall being considered by Michael Howard, the environment secretary, depends on selling Houghton Street for about £100 million. By opening discussions with prospective buyers, the LSE hopes to counter suggestions that the site is unsaleable in the present economic climate.

Spassky fights back to make it square

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

BORIS Spassky, the former world champion, has struck back to seize a victory in the fourth game of the so-called "world chess championship" in Sveti Stefan, in the former Yugoslavia.

His opponent, Bobby Fischer, said: "I underestimated Spassky's attack." The game did justice to the attacking style of the Russian's best days, recalling wins against Fischer in the sixties.

After hammer blows by Spassky followed, Fischer was obliged to return all his captured material and faced an endgame with Spassky and still cameras banned from promoting a pawn to a queen on the far left flank.

After 50 moves and five and a half hours of play, Fischer conceded defeat. The next game is on Wednesday night.

White	Black	White	Black
1 d4	1 e5	2 Ne2	2 Ne2
2 c4	2 d5	3 Bb5	3 Kf1
3 Nf3	3 Nf3	4 Nf3	4 Nf3
4 e3	4 e3	5 Nc3	5 Nc3
5 d3	5 d3	6 Nbd5	6 Nbd5
6 Nc3	6 Nc3	7 Nc3	7 Nc3
7 f3	7 f3	8 Nf5	8 Nf5
8 Rf1	8 Rf1	9 Nf5	9 Nf5
9 Nf5	9 Nf5	10 Nf5	10 Nf5
10 Nf5	10 Nf5	11 Nf5	11 Nf5
11 Nf5	11 Nf5	12 Nf5	12 Nf5
12 Nf5	12 Nf5	13 Nf5	13 Nf5
13 Nf5	13 Nf5	14 f3	14 f3
14 f3	14 f3	15 Nf5	15 Nf5
15 Nf5	15 Nf5	16 Kf1	16 Kf1
16 Kf1	16 Kf1	17 e4	17 e4
17 e4	17 e4	18 Nf5	18 Nf5
18 Nf5	18 Nf5	19 Nf5	19 Nf5
19 Nf5	19 Nf5	20 Nf5	20 Nf5
20 Nf5	20 Nf5	21 Nf5	21 Nf5
21 Nf5	21 Nf5	22 Nf5	22 Nf5
22 Nf5	22 Nf5	23 Nf5	23 Nf5
23 Nf5	23 Nf5	24 Nf5	24 Nf5
24 Nf5	24 Nf5	25 Nf5	25 Nf5
25 Nf5	25 Nf5	26 Nf5	26 Nf5
26 Nf5	26 Nf5	27 Nf5	27 Nf5
27 Nf5	27 Nf5	28 Nf5	28 Nf5
28 Nf5	28 Nf5	29 Rg1	29 Rg1
29 Rg1	29 Rg1	30 Rg1	30 Rg1
30 Rg1	30 Rg1	31 Rg1	31 Rg1
31 Rg1	31 Rg1	32 Rg1	32 Rg1
32 Rg1	32 Rg1	33 Rg1	33 Rg1
33 Rg1	33 Rg1	34 Rg1	34 Rg1
34 Rg1	34 Rg1	35 Rg1	35 Rg1
35 Rg1	35 Rg1	36 Rg1	36 Rg1
36 Rg1	36 Rg1	37 Rg1	37 Rg1
37 Rg1	37 Rg1	38 Rg1	38 Rg1
38 Rg1	38 Rg1	39 Rg1	39 Rg1
39 Rg1	39 Rg1	40 Rg1	40 Rg1
40 Rg1	40 Rg1	41 Rg1	41 Rg1
41 Rg1	41 Rg1	42 Rg1	42 Rg1
42 Rg1	42 Rg1	43 Rg1	43 Rg1
43 Rg1	43 Rg1	44 Rg1	44 Rg1
44 Rg1	44 Rg1	45 Rg1	45 Rg1
45 Rg1	45 Rg1	46 Rg1	46 Rg1
46 Rg1	46 Rg1	47 Rg1	47 Rg1
47 Rg1	47 Rg1	48 Rg1	48 Rg1
48 Rg1	48 Rg1	49 Rg1	49 Rg1
49 Rg1	49 Rg1	50 Rg1	50 Rg1
50 Rg1	50 Rg1	Fischer resigns	Fischer resigns

Position at close of play

NEWS IN BRIEF

Two editors join press watchdog

Two regional newspaper editors have joined the Press Complaints Commission as press members. Lord McGregor of Durris, the commission chairman, announced yesterday.

George McKechnie, editor of the Glasgow Evening Times, takes over from William Anderson, managing editor of the Sunday Post, while Keith Parker, editor of the Wolverhampton Express & Star, replaces Robert Ridley, editor-in-chief of the Manchester Evening News.

The Press Complaints Commission's policy is to regularly rotate its editor-members. Two months ago Peter Preston,

TUC leaders demand a return to basic issues

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

News
I work
join
Watch

THE Trades Union Congress faces the biggest shake-up in its 124-year history after delegates to the annual reunion in Blackpool ordered a return to basic issues of jobs and services for members.

Scathing criticism of the organisation's performance was meted out by senior trade union leaders, including Norman Willis, the TUC general secretary.

In his most impassioned public speech for years, Mr Willis said the TUC must learn to live within its means and confine itself to "a very limited number of key priorities backed by the will to deliver them".

The TUC will abandon two-thirds of the diverse social and campaigning goals heaped on it by conference resolutions over the years. Instead, it will concentrate on campaigns for full employment, promoting an employee charter and lobbying against the forthcoming employment bill. At the same time, it will assume a greater role as a conduit between trade unions and the European Commission, and improve services to member unions on health and safety, education and equal rights.

Barry Reamsbottom, general

Union bosses clash

FRUSTRATION at union impotence in the face of Conservative industrial relations reforms erupted yesterday in a bitter public clash between Bill Jordan and Arthur Scargill (Nicholas Wood writes).

Mr Jordan, president of the AEEU, the engineers' union and a leading moderate, ac-

cused the miners' leader of resorting to "contorted logic" in pressing his case for law-breaking to restore union rights.

But Mr Scargill said it was time the unions got off their knees and embarked on the kind of mass defiance that had brought down the poll tax.

The confrontation between two of the country's best known trade union bosses was a vivid reminder of the battles between right and left throughout the 1980s that ended with a clear win for the moderates and pushed figures like Mr Scargill to the margins of the labour movement.

TUC delegates voted to support a resolution stopping short of committing the unions to embarrassing Labour and demanding the restoration of pre-1979 legal immunities. The National Union of Mineworkers' call for no co-operation with anti-trade union legislation was rejected on a show of hands.

The TUC vote will come as a relief to Labour leaders, who want to concentrate their fire on the government's forthcoming trade union bill, and to campaign for the European social charter and better job training.

Although Mr Scargill lost the vote, he won the biggest cheers of the afternoon as he summoned up all his oratorical powers to lambast the government and condemn the TUC's failure to halt the anti-union tide.

MPs defend links with party

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR leaders sought yesterday to reassure the unions that they will retain a powerful voice in the party's policy-making bodies.

John Evans, the Labour MP who chairs the national executive committee, told the conference that the unions "anchored" the party into the daily lives of millions of people.

Mr Evans, a prominent figure on the NEC working party reviewing the links between Labour and the unions, declared: "The Labour party is and will remain a trade-union based party." He was supported by Frank Dobson, Labour's employment spokesman, who underlined his personal commitment to preserving close ties between the two



In the news: a group of delegates keep abreast of socialist affairs at the opening day of the Trades Union Congress in Blackpool yesterday

Bickerstaffe attacks Tories' 'con-trick'

By PATRICIA TEHAN

RODNEY BICKERSTAFFE, the TUC president, savaged the government's employment and economic record, describing policies of the last 13 years as "the con-trick of the 1980s".

He said British people were

the wasted victims of a regime

that had nothing to fear from the emergence of a small group of super unions containing a large proportion of congress membership.

The TUC's German equivalent, the DGB, had three-quarters of its members in just three unions. But the TUC must adapt to changed circumstances.

The two key campaigns under the new TUC regime will be for an employee's charter and to restore the consensus that full employment should be a principal goal of economic policy.

Borrowing the "big idea" of John Major, the prime minister, and tailoring it to a campaign for employment rights is seen as a masterstroke within the trade union movement. According to poll research commissioned by the TUC, there is widespread popular support for measures which would guarantee workers a measure of protection from ruthless employers.

At the same time, campaigning on a simple, clear issue — jobs for all who want them — is seen to be both relevant and popular. "We have to assert that unemployment is not the price we must pay for getting the economy right, it is the price we pay for having got it wrong."

"The biggest risk to the British economy is unemployment and rising unemployment," Mr Willis said. He would detail the TUC's concerns to Mr Major when he meets him next week. Mr Major will receive a delegation from the European TUC, including Mr Willis, in his role as president of the European Community.

Ultimate madness, page 17

The day ahead in Blackpool

The Trades Union Congress will this morning discuss resolutions concerning trade union organisation and industrial relations, equal rights and the European Community.

In addition, congress will debate motions covering education and training.

Howard Davies, the director general of the Confederation of British Industry, Mr Davies is the first employers' representative to address congress in its 124-year history.

In addition, congress will

debate motions covering education and training.

Congress president laughs off his identity crisis

TUC president Rodney Bickerstaffe is trying to live down his likeness to 1960s pop icon Buddy Holly — but it is not easy, especially as this year's TUC coincides with Blackpool Opera House's presentation of *Buddy*, the

colleagues. The TUC's longest serving council member Ken Gill, who has just stepped down as general secretary of the Manufacturing, Science and Finance Union and who retires at the end of this congress, said Mr Bickerstaffe not only looked like Buddy, "he is a Buddy Holly fan, and I can tell you from bitter experience that he sings like Buddy Holly".

Ron Todd, the piano play-

ing former general secretary of the TGWU, joined Mr Gill with his Buddy reminiscences. He said posters advertising the show had been puzzling him since he arrived in Blackpool at the weekend. Mr Todd said he assumed Blackpool was extending an "unprecedented welcome" to Mr Bickerstaffe and to the TUC.

However, he said Mr Bickerstaffe is prone to that kind of "identity mishap". On

the way up to Blackpool the two were recognised in a motorway service station. A dinner came up and said "you are Ron Todd, aren't you?" He then turned to Mr Bickerstaffe and said: "And you, I would know that face anywhere, you are Eric Hammond." Mr Hammond, a portly Kentish bogeyman of the TUC, has retired from the EETPU. Mr Bickerstaffe's reply has been censored.

Britain's opt-out attacked

THE prime minister will be urged to put social policy on the agenda during his presidency of the European Community during a meeting with the European Trade Union Confederation at Downing Street next week (Patricia Tehan writes).

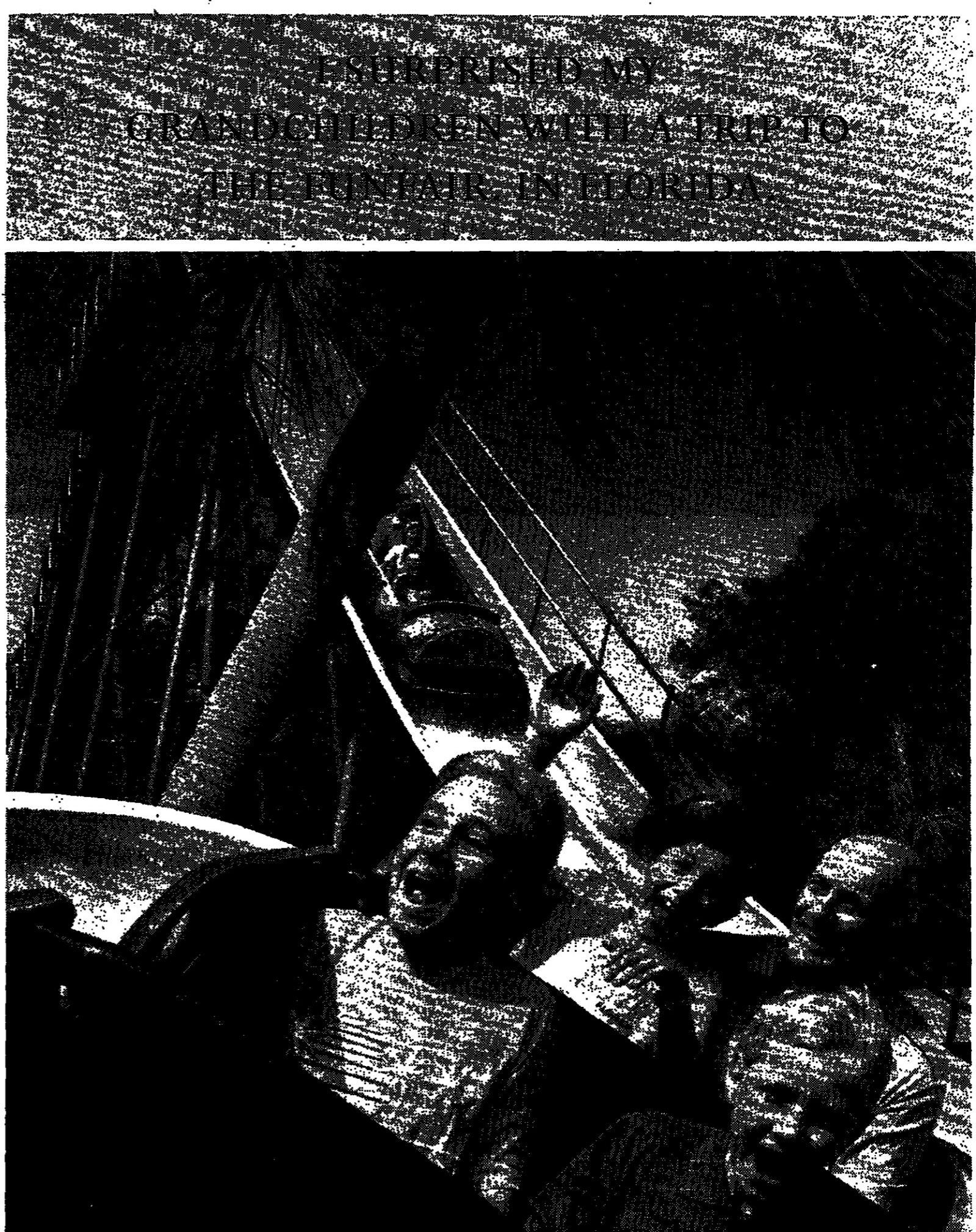
Emilio Gabaglio, the confederation's general secretary, criticised John Major's failure

EUROPE

to subscribe to the social chapter, an agreement on employment practices by the other 11 EC members and annexed to the Maastricht treaty.

The confederation shared the TUC view that the British government's opt-out from the social chapter "will prove untenable". He said the confederation delegation would express its concern about the economic situation and unemployment, and would urge Mr Major to support a co-operative strategy for growth and employment agreed by other EC members on July 3 in Brussels.

He told delegates: "Events in the last few weeks have shown that co-ordinated action at community level is needed more than ever to put the European economy back on the rails and take effective measures against unemployment." Mr Gabaglio said the confederation was "demanding that the UK presidency ensure that the directives on working time and protection of pregnant women be adopted as soon as possible".



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THE SPORTS SALOON

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Shooting in Ciskei forces de Klerk to stop talks

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENT de Klerk was forced yesterday to abandon his planned agenda for a conference in Pretoria on a federal solution of the country's constitutional problems and concentrate on the situation in the Ciskei homeland, where a bloodbath erupted when troops opened fire on African National Congress marchers.

The conference was planned as the first of a series to demonstrate that the government was not sitting back while the ANC refused to resume constitutional negotiations. The ANC would not have any part in it, nor would the white opposition Democratic Party, long an advocate of federalism, which sent only observers.

Zac de Beer, the Democratic Party leader, described the conference as an apparent "ganging up" of anti-ANC forces who were part of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (Codesa) negotiations that broke down in June after the Boipatong killings.

Immediately after opening the one-day conference yesterday, Mr de Klerk went into a

PEOPLE

Shultz is honoured by Seoul

The South Korean government named former US Secretary of State, George Shultz, the winner of the £150,000 Seoul Peace Prize.

Mr Shultz, 72, was awarded the prize for his contribution to ending the Cold War through arms control talks and summit meetings he had arranged between Washington and Moscow, the award committee said. "He also played a crucial role in staging successfully the 1988 Seoul Summer Olympics," the committee chairman, Kim Yong Shik, said. Mr Shultz was Secretary of State from 1982 to 1988 under Ronald Reagan. Winner of the first prize two years ago was Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee.

Baroness Thatcher arrived in Azerbaijan's capital of Baku as a guest of Azerbaijan authorities. She was due to meet the Azerbaijani president, Abulfaz Elchibey, and attend the ceremonial signing of an agreement between the republic's government and British Petroleum.

Henry Ephron, who with his wife wrote a series of witty films in Hollywood's postwar golden era, has died in Los Angeles aged 81. A playwright, screen writer and producer, the Ephrons' highlights included *Daddy Long Legs* (1955) with Fred Astaire.

A performance of Swan Lake at Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre came to a virtual halt after Mexican soap opera star Veronica Castro, who plays the heroine in *The Rich Also Cry*, a huge hit in Russia, visited the theatre and her box was mobbed by spectators.

Women's low-paid work is never done

FROM DAVID BRISCOE IN WASHINGTON

IT IS the law in Cuba: men are required to help around the *hacienda*. But like their male counterparts in Poland, Japan and the United States, they just do not do their fair share.

Nearly everywhere in the world, women are dressing the children, washing the clothes, cooking the meals, making the beds and taking out the rubbish — all before they go to work to earn less than men, according to an International Labour Organisation report released yesterday. But it is not just American husbands causing the problem.

"In Poland, even the youngest of married men, do not help with the housework, while Japanese men spent only 15 minutes a day on chores around the house," the report by the United Nations agency says. In Nor-

Somalia's gunmen exact toll of food

FROM ANDREW HILL
IN BAIDOA, SOMALIA

THE Rambo of Baidoa glimmed a white face in the approaching vehicle and saw red. He adjusted his headscarf and sunglasses, tossed a bandoleer of bullets over his shoulder and waved his machinegun menacingly. "No foreigners in Baidoa," he hissed, standing over two mines in the path of the car outside the worst-hit town in the Somali famine.

He relented, eventually. But he repeated the performance several times for other white visitors. His script, relief workers say, was written by General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the warlord who, with his allies, controls Baidoa and two-thirds of Mogadishu and its port.

General Aidid, fighting for power and territory against his rival, self-styled President Ali Mahdi Muhammad, feels threatened by United Nations plans to deploy 3,500 armed guards to protect relief convoys from looting. He argues they would violate what sovereignty the ruined nation still has after 20 months of civil strife.

But the real reason for his opposition, UN staff and aid workers say privately, is power and money. If the blue berets went into territory he claims, he would lose both.

The only economy Somalia has left is food aid and aid workers. Gunmen are paid by



Food queue: a Somali family waits in a registration room in Baidoa yesterday before being fed at a centre run by the charity Concern

every relief agency to guard their lives and the food they bring. They are rewarded in cash and food, sometimes as much as half of a shipment. It is the price the UN pays for permission to operate in a country where there is no law but the gun, no government but the gunmen and little negotiation, except at gunpoint.

Clan leaders bestow patronage on the gunmen by allowing them to operate in ports, warehouses, roadblocks. They assign areas where the gunmen can ride shotgun on food convoys. The clan that controls Mogadishu's wrecked airport even extracts a landing fee on aid flights: £50 for a small plane,

£150 for a Hercules transport. Aid is the economy. The word "Soma" means to milk a camel. And that's exactly what is going down here. They're milking us like they always do," said a senior UN official who was involved in food aid here in the 1980s. General Aidid has reluctantly agreed to the deployment of 500 UN armed troops to protect Mogadishu's port and airport from gangs of looters, although his men will still be paid for guarding the food once it is outside the port. "It means the official looting in the warehouses will continue, but the unofficial looting will stop," said an aid worker.

In Baidoa, 200 people die daily of hunger. The local governor, Mohamed Yousef, an Aidid appointee, welcomed his visitor cordially. But behind his dusty desk were welcome signs of another kind. "Foreign army no. Food yes," read one. "We need food, not troops," said another. (Reuters)

Party claims stake in Deng reforms

Peking is emphasising the leading role of the Communist Party while turning the country's economy towards capitalism. Catherine Sampson writes

AS REPORTS emerged that China may hold its five-year party congress as early as next month, *People's Daily*, the national newspaper, devoted an entire page yesterday to a ringing endorsement of traditional party values.

At a time when many Chinese question the relevance of the Communist Party, the article said that everything from the success of economic reform to social stability depended on the party.

The article appeared to be an attempt to justify the party's existence and to present a unified face to the world in the run-up to the congress after rumours of faction fighting. Disagreement between hardliners and reformists over policy and leadership changes had been thought likely to delay the congress until November or December.

But yesterday Wan Li, chairman of China's rubber-stamp parliament, told a Japanese visitor that the congress may take place in October. Deng Xiaoping, now a frail 88, is unlikely to attend but is believed to be pushing hard behind the scenes for a radical reform programme that would involve more foreign investment, more private enterprise and mass lay-offs from state factories.

Yesterday *People's Daily* gushed equal praise for Marx, Mao and Mr Deng, claiming Mr Deng had managed to defeat hardliners because of his understanding of Marxism. The article echoed Mr Deng's determination to keep tight

Saddam son calls for democracy, Iraqi style

FROM REUTER IN BAGHDAD

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein's eldest son was yesterday quoted as saying it was time to introduce limited democratic changes including a new constitution, multiparty activity and press freedom. But he has repeatedly emphasised that there would be no place for Western-style democracy in Iraq.

Saddam told a party congress last year that anyone adopting Western values would not be allowed to "direct the political, social and cultural life of the country".

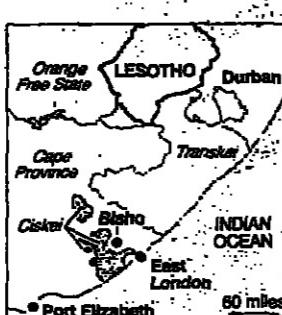
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in September 1991, legalised the creation of opposition political parties, but retained the leading role of the ruling Baath party, granting it the sole right to campaign and lobby for members from the armed and security forces. The law was rejected by opposition factions abroad and nobody in Iraq has applied to form a political group. Other promised reforms, such as a new constitution and freedom of the press, are still on the shelf.



Bophuthatswana capital that adjoins the historic Boer war town of Mafikeng. Troops from Pretoria, 50 miles away, were dispersed in armoured cars to free President Mangope and other homeland leaders who had been taken hostage and were being held in the football stadium. Pretoria could not doubt act just as forcibly again as it might have done yesterday in Ciskei.

A march on Chief Buthelezi's capital of Umlazi, which is well within the KwaZulu homeland, strategically would be suicide. It would leave Pretoria little choice but to deploy its troops and security forces on a massive scale.

Ciskei bloodbath, page 1

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The handy new ten pence coin will replace the old one — which ceases to be legal tender on June 30th, 1993.



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ROYAL MINT

*IT IS the law in Cuba: men are required to help around the *hacienda*. But like their male counterparts in Poland, Japan and the United States, they just do not do their fair share.*

Nearly everywhere in the world, women are dressing the children, washing the clothes, cooking the meals, making the beds and taking out the rubbish — all before they go to work to earn less than men, according to an International Labour Organisation report released yesterday. But it is not just American husbands causing the problem.

"In Poland, even the youngest of married men, do not help with the housework, while Japanese men spent only 15 minutes a day on chores around the house," the report by the United Nations agency says. In Nor-

dic countries, men whose working hours were reduced used the extra time for leisure activities. And in Cuba, 82 per cent of all Havana women do all the domestic chores, despite the law requiring men to help with the housework.

"Family responsibilities are at the heart of much discrimination against women," said Michel Hansemann, director-general of the Geneva-based organisation. "Women are expected to stay at home to look after children and are then treated as second-class workers because of this." The differences between pay for men and women widened in both developing and industrialised countries, despite decades of efforts to advance female equality in the workplace. Women work more hours a week, including

housework, than men in every part of the world except North America and Australia. They work the hardest in Africa. In North America and Australia, men

vive la difference



work 49 hours a week, while women work 47.5, the report says. In Western Europe, women average 48 hours, men 43; Japan's women work 56 hours and men 54;

Doubting Danes search for realistic ways to keep EC link



POUL SCHLÜTER, Denmark's Conservative prime minister, is considering holding a fresh vote on Europe by next summer. In June, Denmark voted against the Maastricht treaty, throwing the future of a united Europe in doubt.

In a speech at a Conservative party conference marking his tenth year in office, Mr Schlüter confirmed that at the weekend that the Danish electorate would not be asked to vote again on Maastricht this year. He indicated, though, that Denmark would probably have to hold a referendum on its relationship with Europe next summer, when its future within the European Community had been clarified.

Schlüter: text of the treaty must be changed

The solution to Maastricht may lie in an associate membership, writes Christopher Follett from Copenhagen

DENMARK

"The Maastricht treaty cannot be implemented with the signatures of only 11 member states of the European Community," Mr Schlüter said. "There can of course be no talk of another referendum this year in Denmark on an unchanged Maastricht text. But when we reach a new, different basis for the country's relations with the EC, it will be

the best thing in a democracy like ours to go to the Danish electorate again and ask for their approval of a formula for Danish accommodation with the Community based on broad consensus between the government and all the other political parties."

Mr Schlüter said he expected that a new *modus vivendi* for Denmark's continued membership of the EC would be worked out by the government and all the eight political

parties in parliament at the latest during the first half of 1993, when Denmark is due to hold the six-month rotating presidency of the EC.

In London, Ulf Ellermann-Jensen, the Danish foreign minister, told John Major that his government would issue a white paper outlining Denmark's future choices in October and hope for an outline agreement with its EC partners by the time of the Edinburgh summit in early December. He said that any referendum in Denmark would have to be held on a "totally new basis" from the June 2 referendum.

Mr Ellermann-Jensen told a Danish newspaper yesterday

that he accepted that the treaty might be rewritten to allow Denmark to opt out of parts of the text which were especially unpopular with the Danes. "I don't think that the others will renegotiate," he said. "It's very possible that the solution will be Maastricht plus some protocols." But even negotiation with fresh protocols will be fraught with political and diplomatic difficulty since legal experts believe that the addition of any protocol is technically a reopening and renegotiation of the treaty.

The Danish government's white paper will form the basis for discussions between the Conservative-Liberal minority government and the opposition on a proposal to be presented to Denmark's EC partners. Even if all the other EC states ratify Maastricht, the Danish position is not expected to be sorted out until next summer, with the Danish electorate having the final word.

Meanwhile, the domestic debate on Denmark's future role in Europe rages on, with three possible paths of action outlined by Nikolaj Petersen, professor of political science at Aarhus University:

□ "Maastricht with roses": a footnote to the treaty by which Denmark would opt out of those parts which the electorate opposes most, such as joint defence policy, economic and

monetary union and police and legal co-operation;

□ "Maastricht without thorns": the adoption of protocols allowing Denmark special status within the European Union; and

□ an Efta-style "whiff of Maastricht" association arrangement with the new EC. As the first two scenarios would probably lead to a two-tier EC, likely to be opposed by Denmark's EC partners and the Danish electorate, associate membership of the Community is seen as Denmark's only realistic option.

Major's defence, page 1
Leading article and Letters, page 11

Banker urges EC to give Eastern Europe better trade deals

By GEORGE BROCK

THE European Community should scrap and then renegotiate its trade deals with Eastern Europe before the existing ungenerous agreements ruin those economies, the head of Europe's reconstruction bank urged yesterday.

Jacques Attali, president of the London-based European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, told a confer-

ence organised by the British government to mark its EC presidency that "the attitude of the European Community towards the nations of Central and Eastern Europe must change". He said that the Community's approach to its eastern neighbours appeared designed to "restrict their access to key Western markets rather than to integrate them". EC governments, he said, sometimes saw the struggling economies of the East as rivals rather than future partners in need of help.

TRADE

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M Attali, for many years an adviser to President Mitterrand, said that the EC should ratify the Maastricht treaty and then immediately establish a "continental common market" throughout Europe by abolishing all national trade barriers. "As the first step in that process, I would like to propose that the existing EC association agreements (with Eastern Europe) be renegotiated on better and more open terms, treating Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland — and any other countries willing and able to join in — as future equal members of an economic community rather than competitors to be kept out."

The EC recently closed its borders to certain types of Czech steel. M Attali attacked this decision, pointing out that the Community was only allowing Czechoslovakia to export steel amounting to 1 per cent of the entire EC market. Meanwhile, Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, obliquely criti-

cised John Major's speech to the conference by stressing the importance of EC law. Mr Major singled out for special mention sections of the Maastricht treaty which develop intergovernmental co-operation beyond the reach of the EC's court. M Delors said that the EC's history showed that "without strong institutions, the will to co-operate is by itself not sufficient".

In one of the conference's more striking speeches, M Attali predicted that Europe would "decline into a morass of conflict and chaos" if Maastricht is not ratified. Western Europe, he said, would not be strong enough without the political integration prescribed by the treaty to withstand the strains likely to be caused by economic misery and ethnic tensions in the east. "If Europe does not move forward," he said, "it can only retreat. If we cannot bring ourselves to ratify this treaty, if we withdraw into ourselves and once again the trumpets of nationalism are heard in Western Europe, it would be a disaster for the 12."

● **BONN:** Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, under attack for lack of leadership over the country's unification problems, yesterday invited political, business and trade union leaders to work together on a "solidarity pact" (Ian Murray writes).

Herr Kohl, who is expected to break his summer-long silence with a "state of the German nation" speech to the Bundestag tomorrow, has asked experts to prepare details for the pact, which he wants signed "as soon as possible". Herr Kohl's new found urgency comes as criticism grows over his failure so far to speak out strongly against the wave of violence against foreigners and over his dithering about how to raise the money needed to rebuild the economy in the east.

Now, however, the unemployed have been thrust into the frontline of politics. In Hungary and Slovakia they are helping to fuel nationalist parties. In the Czech Lands the unemployed helped to rescue the former Communist party, which retains a surprisingly strong position. In Poland the fear of unemployment in the largely unformed state sector is one of the most volatile elements in the political equation.

British unemployment aid to Poland has concentrated on the Czawod region. Several dozen experts from the Department of Employment, with some of them living in Poland on a semi-permanent basis, have been advising on how to redeploy and retrain redundant workers from the nearby Nowa Huta steelworks. However, British techniques are not always exportable. The mobility of workers is constrained by the serious housing shortage.

In Rostock the unemployment rate is 13 per cent in Lichtenhagen, 17 per cent. The rate when floating and casual workers are taken into account is probably twice as high. The east Germans are unused to both foreigners and unemployment, and for extreme right-wing groups it is easy to blame foreigners for stealing jobs. The local government structure in eastern Germany, moreover, has little experience in managing budgets and sacking up scarce resources.

In Poland unemployment has reached 2.3 million, or about 13 per cent of the work force. Most forecasts suggest that the number will swell this winter and touch the three million mark. The shift from

no unemployment to mass unemployment in three years is profoundly unsettling in a society with no unemployment culture. In Poland and other East European states the newly unemployed reacted first with bafflement, then with hurt. Politically they have tended to withdraw from the system, partly explaining the very low turnout rates in the first free elections.

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Unemployed thrust into front line

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

BRITAIN'S efforts to help ease the political strains of rising unemployment in Eastern Europe were reaffirmed yesterday by the arrival in Poland of Michael Forsyth, the employment minister, who is also due to tour Bulgaria.

Advice on unemployment, such as how to set up and computerise job centres, re-training and counselling schemes, has become one of the key elements of British assistance. The emergence of unemployment as a potent destabiliser in post-communist societies has become clear, especially in eastern Germany. When refugees are housed in towns of concentrated unemployment, they are seen as a threat.

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FROM CHARLES BRENNER
IN PARIS

IF ONE image sticks from the French government's bungled summer campaign for Maastricht, it was of a solitary blonde, beautiful, haughty and dressed to kill, picking her way in stocking feet among the sunbathers of a Mediterranean beach, clutching her high heels. Television captured the image as Elisabeth Guigou, the minister for European affairs, was tramping the resorts on the orders of François Mitterrand, her president and patron, to "explain, explain, convince, convince" the population over the merits of Maastricht.

By general consent, Madame Guigou, 46, is many things. *Le Monde* lists them: "Very beautiful, very clever, very hard working and very ambitious." British veterans of her formidable negotiating

skill testify to all of these. Friends call her shy, enemies call her one of "le président's girls", the group of female advisers whom he has later promoted to minister, and *Paris Match* dubbed her the Kim Basinger of the cabinet. Such constant references to her looks fail to do justice to her intellectual triumph in climbing to the top civil service ranks from a childhood as the daughter of a small olive and fruit canner in Marrakesh.

But whatever her qualities, as the spearhead of the government campaign for the hearts and minds of the public she could hardly have been a poorer choice. From the angle of an angry farmer or an anxious shopkeeper, she is everything they most fear and loathe about Maastricht: an icy Parisian technocrat with a superb command of detail and an apparent disdain for lesser and provincial minds. Stiff and always immaculate, Mme

or 40 per cent of the electorate who say they are undecided or plan to abstain. A new poll by the CSA organisation found that, of those who planned to

vote on September 20, 54 per cent favoured the treaty and 46 per cent opposed it. But the survey, published by *Le Parisien*, said 34 per cent would abstain.

Anti-Maastricht politicians

surge of "Yes" sentiment has prompted politicians to start taking positions for or against it. Emphasising that their approach to Europe was constructive, Dissidents in the Socialist Party joined with the Communists to complain of a "wave of propaganda" depicting them as negative and reactionary.

"Our 'No' will be a 'Yes' of hope for restoring European construction," said Jean-Pierre Chevénement, the Socialist dissidents' leader.

Defender of treaty looks for converts

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

Here are the main points of John Major's speech to the London conference on "Europe and the World after 1992":

No-one regarded the Maastricht treaty as ideal. It was the "hard fought outcome" of compromises by 12 nations. But overall, "the treaty is good for Britain and good for Europe". The combination of the Danish referendum verdict and a French "non" would be decisive. "Without the consent of all 12 member states the Maastricht treaty cannot proceed. It would be dead." If Denmark and France said no, all must think again. "There can be no question of leaving one member behind. Britain would not be party to such an agreement".

Maastricht was only part of a bigger agenda including

SUMMARY OF MAJOR'S SPEECH

completion of the single market by the end of the year, future financing, strengthening of links with Eastern and central Europe, preparation for EC enlargement and a successful outcome to the Gatt talks. Britain was accused of wanting no more than a free trade area in Europe. But that area was the essential ingredient of European unity which had the Swedes and Finns, the Swiss, the Austrians and the Eastern Europeans wanting to join. Last year 57 per cent of Britain's exports had gone to EC member nations.

The Community had been the answer to destructive nationalism. Freedom of movement had replaced frontier disputes. But the founders of the Community had underestimated the durability of national self-interest, national identity and national pride. "Many European citizens fear for national self-identity. Will it be lost? Will their domestic interests be subordinated? Will they forever face frustrating restrictions?"

The debate had been evident in Denmark and France. "It flourished in the UK: there are instincts rooted here deep in the blood: they are not to be swept away by rhetoric about growth or slogans about unity. The Community must show that these fears are phantoms. To do so it must recognise and build on national identity and national pride, not appear to ride roughshod over them."

No nation's identity would be lost. Democratic consent was the core of the Treaty of Rome with its talk of "ever closer union among the peoples of Europe". That implied not federation but conciliation and consent. Economic and monetary changes had to reflect real changes in economic behaviour in the market place and must work with the grain of the market. "That is what the ERM does and will continue successfully to do, whatever happens to the Maastricht treaty."

There was tension on defence between countries which wanted a common EC defence, and those like Britain who believed we had a common defence of Europe already in Nato. An important development at Maastricht was the agreement that the Community should only do those things which could not be better done at the level of member states. "That implies scrapping some existing, overbearing legislation as well as avoiding new, unnecessary regulation" making a "living concept" of subsidiarity.

The other significant development was the acknowledgement "that we can act together in unison without necessarily acting within the framework of community law."

La belle Elisabeth's charms fail to win the hearts of French farmers



FROM CHARLES BRENNER
IN PARIS

IF ONE image sticks from the French government's bungled summer campaign for Maastricht, it was of a solitary blonde, beautiful, haughty and dressed to kill, picking her way in stocking feet among the sunbathers of a Mediterranean beach, clutching her high heels. Television captured the image as Elisabeth Guigou, the minister for European affairs, was tramping the resorts on the orders of François Mitterrand, her president and patron, to "explain, explain, convince, convince" the population over the merits of Maastricht.

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Guigou, a fluent English speaker, is passionate about the benefits of Maastricht, a treaty whose groundwork she ably helped lay in five years work in European affairs. But her enthusiasm led her to play into the hands of her opponents by hurling insults at Philippe Séguin and the rest of the "demolition crew," as she called the critics of the treaty.

Mme Guigou's rise has strong parallels with that of M Séguin, the anti-Maastricht champion who became her nemesis this summer, scoring higher on the pollster's credibility league. Like him, she is a *pied noir* of humble origin who made it to the Ecole Nationale de l'Administration, the breeding ground of the guided technocracy. At 20, a year after continuing her studies in Montpellier, she married Jean-Louis Guigou, now director of the national land development authority.

Mme Guigou's eye in 1982 soon stints as an attaché at the embassy in London and as an adviser to Jacques Delors, then finance minister. *Le Monde*, for whom sexism is no bar to intellectual rigour, noted last year that "no one could doubt that her looks had attracted M Mitterrand's attention. As adviser for international monetary affairs at the Elysée palace, she is credited with initiating the immathematical M Mitterrand into the arcana of the financial world "Mitterrand's little calculator". *L'Express* wickedly called her.

In the later 1980s, she impressed with a deft performance as co-ordinator for European economic co-operation, an especially delicate job at the time of the "co-habitation" government of Jacques Chirac. She succeeded Edith Cresson as European affairs minister in 1990.

Threat to Muslims as Croats demand a slice of Sarajevo

FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISON IN BELGRADE AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THREE people of Sarajevo were waiting nervously yesterday to see whether Croatian forces would join the Serbs in attacking the Bosnian capital.

On Sunday, Velimir Maric, the commander of Sarajevo's Croatian forces demanded that the Bosniacs cede control of six suburbs. "After the ultimatum expires (today), we will use all available means to liberate Croatian territories. That could imply a conflict," Mr Maric said.

Meanwhile, in Moscow, Boutros Ghali, the United Nations secretary-general, said a new resolution was being drafted that would commit more UN peacekeeping forces to Bosnia, where yesterday fighting continued, killing 26 people and wounding 170 in the 24 hours up to midday.

Bosnian Serb leaders have consistently demanded the partition of Sarajevo, like the rest of the republic, into Serb, Muslim and Croat areas. Bosnian Croats agree that the republic should be split into cantons. But Mr Maric's demand appears to be the first time that the Croats have threatened their nominal Bos-

nian allies. Mr Maric's demand for the six suburbs of Sarajevo was rejected outright by Mustafa Hajrudinovic, the commander of the city's Bosnian forces. "We have to live in one republic, which is uncontested," said Mr Hajrudinovic. "If they don't agree with that, we will fight until we liberate our territory."

Dr Boutros Ghali called yesterday for a strengthening of the UN role in Bosnia to rid the country of foreign troops and renew the flow of humanitarian aid.

Winding up a four-day visit to Russia, he said he would talk to senior UN officials in New York today about "concrete ways of reinforcing the presence of the United Nations... and humanitarian assistance".

He voiced confidence that UN relief flights to Sarajevo, interrupted by last week's crash of an Italian aid plane, would resume soon. "I believe we are still able to send humanitarian assistance through the airport of Sarajevo, and furthermore we are using roads so that we can bring humanitarian assis-

tance to the city," Dr Boutros Ghali said.

He emphasised that the "basic principles" to emerge from the London conference on Yugoslavia had included respect for Bosnia's independence and territorial integrity. "We are asking all foreign troops to withdraw from Bosnia." He said the new resolution that was being drafted would provide for "observers on the borders to prevent any intervention from outside".

Food stocks in Sarajevo are likely to run out within three days if the UN is unable to send in more supplies to the besieged city, a UN official warned yesterday. Sylvana Foa, spokeswoman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said that existing land convoys to the Bosnian capital met only about one-third of immediate needs.

Dr Boutros Ghali has been received warmly in Moscow by President Yeltsin and his government, which has aligned itself with UN sanctions against Serbia. Russia has sent two warships to put pressure on Iraq. However, if the Russian nationalists who have threatened to impeach Mr Yeltsin ever gain power, one of their first moves would be to withdraw from, and possibly veto, any punitive action against the Serbs.

Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, meanwhile, will make their first trip to the Balkans later this week as co-chairmen of the new Yugoslavia peace conference. Fred Eckhard, their spokesman, said in Geneva.

In Sarajevo, firemen guarding every drop of precious water watched a school burn yesterday as UN peacekeepers sought to persuade Bosnia's warring factions to let engineers restore water supplies.

In Belgrade, the independent daily, *Borba*, claimed that on August 27 Bosnian Croat and Muslim political leaders signed an agreement in Ankara on the future of the state - which totally excluded Bosnian Serbs. In the past, the parties have talked of a future confederation of Croatia and Bosnia. Presidents Tudjman and Izetbegovic have talked loosely of a defence pact.

The turbulent priest was deported to internal exile by President Ceausescu's secret police, but then the killing began. More than a thousand people died during the revolution, about 100 in Timisoara alone.

The full truth behind the events of December 1989 has never come out and none of the "terrorists" who carried out the killings has been brought to justice. Last Tuesday the now Bishop Tokes began a hunger strike to demand that the truth be told.

Many Romanians believe that President Illescu himself had a hand in orchestrating the killings in order to help mask a coup as a genuine revolution, complete with martyrs. "Something must be done," said Bishop Tokes. "Talking is no longer enough. There have been too many injustices and illegalities, and so I have decided to do something radical to awaken the conscience of the people."

An offer by President Illescu to talk has been withdrawn. "We made so many offers to talk before," said Bishop Tokes, "and they never were answered. This offer has minimal credibility. He has made it just because of electoral considerations."

Bishop Tokes denies that he started his hunger strike because Romania is in the throes of its second post-revolution general election campaign, but admits that he hopes his actions will indirectly influence the outcome.

His diehard opposition to former Communists like President Illescu, remaining in power is a popular message in Timisoara, a bastion of the Romanian opposition. But nationalists and supporters of President Illescu have moved



Bishop Tokes: hunger strike for the truth

one party, there are indications that the strains within the union may lead to a split - just as Romania's post-revolutionary National Salvation Front has divided. If Yugoslavia-style violence is avoided in Transylvania, the formations that emerge will certainly make for interesting alliances.

Radical Hungarians favour the reunification of former Soviet Moldavia with Romania. This way, they believe, a federal state will have to emerge, giving Hungarians real political power in parts of Transylvania.

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Russia's freedom-drugged youth revels in 'Assid Khaus'

The beat is rapid and so deep and loud that it soon has the innards pulsating in time. The musical dog's dinner of techno-hip hop-scratch-nix, with dollops of classical and African influence thrown in, produces disorientation followed by intense excitement - an effect heightened by the green and purple lasers. The dancing is uninhibited and as frenzied as an aerobics class attached to long-life batteries. Dress is optional with sloppy jeans and T-shirts mixing with Lycra cycling shorts, leather minidresses and outsize platform shoes.

Rave culture, which swept Britain and America in the past two years, has arrived in St Petersburg, which is embracing *Assid Khaus* with enthusiasm as the city returns to its pre-revolutionary

role as the haunt of Russian hedonism. Home to a thriving sub-culture, even in the dreary Brezhnev years, followed by a flowering of the avant-garde under the Gorbatchev era, the city's youth has been quick to latch on to the new imported fad.

The records, laser lights and sound equipment are all imported, but the venues are so exotic that they would make the ravers of London and Manchester turn psychadelic green with envy. At the weekend we had the choice of partying in a 1960s swimming pool with strobe lights illuminating the Socialist Realist portraits of muscular sportsmen, or opting for the more elegant surroundings of the Mouskhina Art School amid the 19th-century marble pillars and Renaissance sculptures of Michelangelo.

At 3,000 roubles (£9 or half the average monthly salary

here) a ticket, the parties are way outside the means of most youngsters. They hang around outside listening enviously to the thuds and whoops from within and begging those leaving to pass on their entry ticket for a few hundred roubles. But in these days of nascent capitalism there are enough high earners to keep the parties throbbing. The new rich travel from Moscow especially for a Saturday night out in "Peter". St Petersburg's night life ranks as more exciting than the capital's.

Sergei Bugayev, 25, an artist, started organising the parties after he had tried out



Time capsule: four Europeans entering a capsule in Cologne where they will stay for 60 days as part of a European Space Agency simulated space flight experiment, with only radio contact to the outside

Man given baboon's liver dies

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN NEW YORK

THE FIRST person to undergo a animal-to-human liver transplant has died in a Pittsburgh hospital, ten weeks after his liver was replaced with that of a baboon.

The 35-year-old man, who has not been named at his request, died late on Sunday night as doctors at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Centre tried to wean him from a respirator after he had suffered a stroke. A spokesman said the cause of the stroke was unknown, but that serious neurological complications occur in about 10 per cent of all transplants.

"We still don't have all the information," he said. "We'll know more in the next couple of days." Doctors believe that the man may have developed an infection after a diagnostic X-ray. An autopsy was underway yesterday.

The initial 11-hour operation on June 28 was successful, and in less than a month the patient was eating solids, walking around and watching television. The transplanted baboon liver had tripled in size as doctors had hoped. A threat of rejection in mid-July was controlled using steroids, but the man's condition worsened in late August after he developed a fever.

Doctors said he appeared to be recovering again when he suffered the stroke. One surgeon said: "He was wide awake this morning and we were working to get him off the respirator."

The man's liver had been destroyed by hepatitis B, which would also have destroyed any transplanted human liver, and the baboon's liver was used because the animal is thought to be immune to the virus.

Election now Clinton's to lose in the final straight

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

IT WAS Labour day in the United States yesterday, the traditional end-of-summer start of the final eight-week stretch of the presidential election, and the candidates' holiday weekends were packed with photogenic all-American activities.

President Bush did the annual four-mile walk across the bridge linking Michigan's upper and lower peninsulas, attended a Chicago Polish festival, and pitched at a Kentucky baseball game. For once, his ball actually reached the hinter.

Bill Clinton, the Democratic candidate, paid homage in Harry Truman's home town of Independence, Missouri, revealing that in 1948 Mr Bush had voted against the "give 'em hell" president, whom he was now upholding as his model. Mr Clinton also went stock-car racing in South Carolina, the sacred sport of those blue-collar white Southerners whose votes have determined elections since 1960.

Mr Clinton preferred racing to a season-opening football game, said his spokeswoman, "because these people are the football". Incredible as it may once have seemed, the election is now Mr Clinton's to lose. He leads in every opinion poll, and is winning among suburbanites who will comprise a majority of the electorate this year; 45 per cent say that they will never back Mr Bush. Most important, Mr Clinton has much the stronger base in the electoral college.

To win the White House on November 3, Mr Clinton, the governor of Arkansas, needs 270 electoral college votes. The ten states that the previous Democratic candidate Michael Dukakis won in 1988, plus California, where he is way ahead, plus Arkansas

and his running mate Al Gore's Tennessee give him 177. By contrast, Mr Bush can count on only 171 even if it is a big if - he secures Texas and Florida.

An analysis by David Broder, psephologist for *The Washington Post*, suggests that Mr Bush and Mr Clinton



will split the Southern battleground of North Carolina, Georgia, Louisiana and Kentucky, and the next president will be the winner in those seven states with 120 votes stretching from Missouri to New Jersey via Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maryland. Four of them gave Mr Bush his narrowest 1988 victories, and their economies have soured since.

Battle strategies have also crystallised. Mr Clinton has failed to propound any forceful new philosophy worthy of an "ism", but constantly reiterates that 12 years of failed Republican "trickle down" economics must be replaced by "invest-and-educate-and-train economics".

Mr Clinton's campaign was boosted last week by dismal poverty, income and unemployment statistics, and the publication of the final pre-election unemployment figures in early October could have an enormous impact.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tajikistan president resigns

MOSCOW President Nabiyev, a hardline former communist whose career flourished during the Brezhnev era, was forced to resign yesterday, just over a year after making his comeback in Tajikistan, the poorest of the former Soviet republics (Bruce Clark writes).

His resignation, after a brief gun fight with opposition forces who surrounded him at Dushanbe airport, follows hundreds of deaths in the south of the country, near the border with Afghanistan, in clashes between his supporters and opponents. Mr Nabiyev had intended to fly to the separatist region of Leninabad, where many inhabitants are ethnic Uzbeks.

Tanks and armoured cars were deployed to protect the president, 61, as he conducted negotiations with parliamentary leaders at the airport and agreed to step down. A crowd of about 1,000 cheered as he was driven away.

The departure of Mr Nabiyev will be welcomed by a broad coalition of adversaries, ranging from secular liberals to the Muslim hierarchy. However, the news is likely to be greeted with dismay in Moscow, where President Yeltsin and the Russian army command have seen Mr Nabiyev as a bulwark against the infiltration of fighters and weapons from Afghanistan.

Three hanged

KABUL: Afghanistan's government hanged three men in front of thousands in its most dramatic implementation of Islamic law since it came to power in April. They had confessed to murder, looting and robbery. (Reuters)

Shias lead

BEIRUT: Initial results of the final phase of parliamentary elections in Lebanon showed advances by candidates of the Shia Muslim Amal militia and the pro-Iranian Hezbollah. The official results are expected early today.

Korean pact

SEOUL: North and South Korea agreed at the border village of Panmunjom the final details of a pact on cross-border economic exchanges, laying the framework for trade between the two ideological foes. (Reuters)

Monitors go

BAGHDAD: A UN nuclear inspection team left Iraq having agreed a plan to watch whether Baghdad is reviving its nuclear programme by monitoring rivers, lakes and canals for radioactivity. (Reuters)

Escape fails

BEIRUT: Four prisoners escaped from a prison in Israel's south Lebanon "security zone", but militiamen captured two who strayed into a minefield where one was injured. (Reuters)

Lovers leap

SIEGEN: An Austrian couple making love in a car on a bank forgot to apply the handbrake and the car rolled 60ft into the river. The husband kicked out the windscreen and he and his wife swam to safety. (Reuters)

STATE OF VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA ELECTION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1992

How to Vote in Person

If you are travelling throughout Europe, Asia or the United States, you may vote at a Postal Voting Centre at selected Australian Embassies.

For the nearest Postal Voting Centre, telephone Miss Edwina Adams, Victoria House, London, or enquire at any Australian Embassy.

In the UK, you may vote in person during weekdays between 9.30am and 4.30pm at Victoria House, until 4.30pm on Thursday, October 1, 1992.

How to Vote by Post

You may apply for postal voting material to be sent to an address nominated by you. Application are available from Victoria House.

Election Day, Saturday, October 3, 1992

Please note that there will be no voting facilities at Victoria House on Saturday, October 3. Voting, either by post or in person at Victoria House, London will close at 4.30pm on Thursday, October 1, 1992.

Electoral Roll Enquiries

The roll for the 1992 State Election closed on August 28, 1992. Victorian electors may make enquiries in person regarding their enrolment at Victoria House.

Australian Embassies will not be able to answer enquiries regarding enrolment for the 1992 Victorian Election.

All enquiries should be made to Miss Edwina Adams.

G Ruffie
Postal Voting Officer
London
Victoria House
Melbourne Place
Stand
London WC2B 4LG
Tel: 071 836 2656

Woodrow Wyatt

Italy is being ruined by the evil of corruption

For decades I have stayed in Italy every year. I have watched the North becoming richer and seen enterprising work-seekers from the South arrive in Milan to lift themselves from poverty. A burst of post-war enthusiasm made businesses large and small flourish. Cars abounded and new housing shot up everywhere in the North, including hamlets and villages. Italy seemed set for riches on secure foundations. Much of the impetus came from having no effective government; for nearly fifty years there had been patched up coalitions in Rome, with the same figures and parties swapping places in them. Lack of strong government caused feeble enforcement of tax collection (always strenuously resisted by Italians) and at least 30 per cent of the economy was energetically powered by the black market, to the general benefit.

Now the Italian miracle has sunk. Participating in tax dodges is a short step from accepting corruption at every level of officialdom and from inertia in halting the ever advancing rampages of organised crime, as the Mafia is euphemistically described. The coalitions, which were first formed to keep the once-strong Communists out of government, had to please their socialist elements, so pensions were far too generous, as was spending on public health. The growth of the appallingly inefficient civil service could not be checked. The sprawling, loss-making nationalised industries — another great source of corruption — could not be privatised. There are attempts to do so now.

Italy is in desperate financial trouble as its vast public indebtedness swells. There is no chance of ever meeting the EC convergence rules required for the establishment of a common currency and central bank. Last week Italy had to raise interest rates by 1.75 per cent to 15 per cent, clobbering its industry further. Great firms like Fiat, Pirelli and Olivetti are sliding because EC competition rules slice away large chunks of their home market through the arrival of cheaper goods.

The Craxi Socialists, led by Bettino Craxi, once apparently one of the more able prime ministers, are bathed in financial scandal. During their 15-year rule of Milan they engaged in the jolly practice of *tangenti*, a system smothering Italy. Contractors seeking public contracts must add 10 per cent or more to the cost of a project. This goes to all political parties and to politicians personally. Signor Craxi is striving his utmost to prevent the prosecution of those involved in Milan, who include his cronies, his son and his brother-in-law.

In the poor South, a huge programme of reconstruction started after the 1980 earthquakes. During the last 11 years it has cost taxpayers some £30 billion. *Tangenti* has diverted £3 billion to all connected, down to site workers. Bureaucrats eagerly follow the example of their political masters. To get the slightest payment or service to which he is entitled, the ordinary citizen must give the official concerned a bribe in an envelope.

Only the magistrates, and to a large degree the police, stand apart from the sea of corruption. After the last election, weeks passed without a government as the shape of the new coalition was argued. The magistrates vigorously instituted prosecutions despite the threats of murder, which are often carried out. Later, the implicated politicians anxiously tried to stop the prosecutions, mindful of their links with the Mafia, which controls many votes in return for favours. Proportional representation prevents strong government, but the politicians will not vote against it because they would lose their seats and their ill-gotten perks.

I have never talked to so many ordinary people, so furious at the corruption ruining Italy as I did in August. Though themselves unavoidably to some extent caught up in the evil system, they long to end it. One able young industrialist told me he thinks the only solution is rule by Germany through Brussels. He is far from alone. Most Italians pray that Maastricht will quickly lead to Brussels governing a United States of Europe. They are terrified that a French No vote might delay the loss of their corrupted national identity. Their faith in clean government by Brussels is not dulled by their being the greatest fraudsters in the Common Agricultural Policy. But there is no reason why Italy ruled more or less directly by Brussels would be less prone to the onward surge of corruption, Mafia terrorism and blackmail. All the young I spoke to are in despair. I left Italy sharing their gloom.

The sale of sophisticated electronic bugging devices should be strictly controlled, says Janet Daley

When I was about ten years old, I discovered my father's old shortwave radio in the back of a cupboard, and for a while I was mesmerised by conversations between ham radio operators and ships' pilots. Before very long this entertainment palled, being largely inscrutable and notably lacking in dramatic plot. But even the banal exchanges of cab drivers had an appeal, because I was listening to conversations which were not meant to be overheard. Fortunately, there was nothing more compelling than traffic information, or I might have developed an unwholesome predilection. The satisfactions of eavesdropping may be mysterious, but the universal interest in other people's private exchanges seems to be unextinguishable and inexhaustible.

For reasons which will be obvious to any reader of British newspapers, there has been much discussion recently about just how far this curiosity about other people's activities should be indulged. Not only have certain public figures had their lives turned inside out by this in-

An invitation to snoop

satisfiable hunger, but certain other people are making a great deal of money out of pandering to it. And the technology of those who pursue serious riches in this line has come a long way from our old wartime shortwave radio.

Indeed, the techniques of electronic eavesdropping have become so advanced that it is now almost impossible to protect oneself against those who are determined to overhear whatever they wish. There are bugs that can pick up a whisper through walls and buildings. There are receivers so small they can be concealed in pens and earrings. There is telephone interception equipment which is virtually invisible. Even the classic spy-thriller technique of holding conversations in the street is no guarantee of confidentiality, since there are directional microphones which can pick up specific voices and relay them to

receivers across great distances. Not only can your exchanges be heard but, thanks to the microphone, they can be recorded by bits of apparatus so small as to be effectively undetectable.

And there is nothing illegal about selling or owning any of these sinister toys. Using them may be criminal, but only in the specialised sense that one is broadcasting on the airwaves without permission. And the law which forbids unregulated transmissions (the 1949 Wireless Telegraphy Act) is now thought by many to be outmoded. If certain legislative reformers get their way, even this check may be removed, allowing a free-for-all for the electronic spying market.

Rumours over royal indiscretions and political scandal have stirred up discontent with the present legal arrangements about invasion of privacy, but the solution being proposed seems very curious. Instead of banning

the unregulated sale (and/or unlicensed ownership) of bug-ging devices — which is to say controlling the distribution of particular commodities — concerned MPs seem more interested in the far more difficult area of controlling the behaviour of people.

Rather than prohibiting the open sale of equipment which can have no innocent purpose, thereby severely limiting the scope of the professional privacy-invaders, legislators are wading into the more dangerous waters of limiting a free press. Arguing that any attempt to regulate the use of a pernicious technology is doomed to failure because one cannot fight technical progress, politicians such as Sir John Wheeler, the Conservative former chairman of the home affairs committee, concentrate their fire on the much more vague and legally problematic notion of motive. Anyone who

records a private conversation with the intention of profiting from sale of the material would be penalised, and even then what he did would not be a criminal offence but a civil one.

This means that only the well-off and well-informed would be inclined to make use of the law, as is now the case with libel.

Sir John and those who agree with his approach apparently feel that the very existence of a new invention entails the right to sell it indiscriminately, and that it is futile to attempt to limit its availability. Would they apply this principle to sub-machine guns or ground-to-air missiles too? Mercifully, we manage to restrict the sale of even ordinary guns in Britain. If I am prevented from owning a pistol without a licence — and a very good explanation of why I need one — why should I not be obliged to justify a legal permit for a bug? We may not want to

ban such equipment altogether; it may, just, have some plausible uses which are not malicious, but surely we can impose some legal supervision so that sale and ownership of such equipment is always publicly registered?

To make the unauthorised recording of private material an offence only if it is subsequently sold misses one of the most evil uses of spying. Under such a law, the would-be blackmailers who holds damaging evidence and demands payment *not* to publish could not be prosecuted for invasion of privacy because he would not have made the sale which would constitute the crime. But any law which made it a crime simply to record without permission would be largely unenforceable, as well as being open to abuse. How much more sensible to ban the unrestricted sale of these nasty playthings.

Those who think that this would be an unacceptable limitation of freedom should remember that it is totalitarian societies, not free ones, which have traditionally encouraged people to spy on one another.

The hangover after the party

Mark Almond on the immense cost of fusing Germany's two halves



Social unrest at home: grand visions of a federal Europe are fading as Germans have to foot the bill for reunification

Helmut Schlesinger, the Bundesbank president, assured the EC finance ministers in Bath at the weekend that Germany would not raise interest rates for the foreseeable future. But behind his smile he must be worried. Each fresh set of statistics brings worse news about the German economy which is sliding into recession.

It is not only Germany's European partners who are clamouring for a cut in German interest rates: German businessmen are increasingly crying out against the Bundesbank's tight-money policy. Yet Dr Schlesinger knows that the biggest borrower in Germany is also the least likely to produce any return on capital: the German state is mired in debt. It is Germany's growing economic difficulties and the sense of a government floundering in the face of unparalleled but interconnected economic and social problems that makes official German support for Maastricht so unreal.

Of course, in public, all German government leaders and members of the board of the Bundesbank are still going through the motions of encouraging a French Yes, but apart from Chancellor Kohl, few believe the Euro-rhetoric they mouth. Helmut Kohl is such a convinced believer in European federal union that he is prepared even to overlook his French allies' use of the German bogey to promote Maastricht, a tactic which most Germans resent.

It was the unexpected achievement of Herr Kohl's other life-long political goal — German reunification — that undermined German support for the Maastricht process. The apparently endless drain of cash into the economic quagmire which was East Germany has taken aback the West Germans. Long gone is that confident dawn when it was asserted that East German rust-belt towns would blossom within five years into the affluence of the Ruhr. New taxes and investment surcharges are constantly being

discussed as the government in Bonn wrestles with the prospect of spending sums over the next ten years which will be equivalent to the annual United States federal deficit, although the population is less than a fifteenth of that of the United States.

West Germans fear that reunification has shackled their much vaunted prosperity to an economic corpse, and that the cost of the economic and social cohesion for the poorer parts of the European Community will have to be borne by them too.

Visitors to East Germany see

the simulacrum of a boom: to consume the West German taxpayers' largess to their eastern brothers, car showrooms and new hypermarkets have sprung up in garishly-coloured prefabrications all over Erich Honecker's grey paradise. But as the riots across the former GDR have shown social cohesion is not the product of subsidy. Unemployed and short-time workers resent sharing their social security with foreign asylum-seekers, but West Germans are increasingly coming to resent both groups.

When the Berlin Wall fell,

Willy Brandt proudly proclaimed that "what belongs together is growing together again", but the experience of German reunification has shown how traumatic a process state-building is. Despite a common language and history, separated only by 45 years of division, the two halves of Germany have yet to fuse into a healthy whole. In 1989, the West German economy was already teetering on the brink of recession, but Chancellor Kohl's splurge in the East briefly held back the downturn, as East

Germans rushed to spend their brand new banknotes on cars and fridges. That demand is now sated, and Germany has woken up to find itself in a worldwide recession with a mighty inflationary hangover.

The Bundesbank has fought hard to recover its reputation for financial probity, but Germans know that no central bank can resist political pressure to print money if that is what the politicians are set on. They saw how Herr Schlesinger's formidable predecessor, Karl-Otto Pöhl, gave up the fight to protect the

world short of capital, the costs of German reunification put a huge burden on us all. At first, high

interest rates to rein in German inflation made matters worse only for Germany's stagnating partners, but now they are also killing the geese which used to lay golden eggs at home. The underlying inflationary pressure caused by Bonn's policy towards the East remains, but the Bundesbank's attempts to keep the lid on it are promoting a rapid rise in West German bankruptcies and unemployment.

The consequences of the strong mark in a world recession are increasingly severe, and the political fallout could well topple Chancellor Kohl. German unification is irreversible, however costly, but few German tears will be shed if European union stalls.

Paradoxically, the much prophesied flight to the mark if the French vote No could make it easier for the Bundesbank to cut domestic interest rates without much inflationary effect. Officially, no doubt, Dr Schlesinger would have to look suitably distressed, but behind his funeral features at a French rejection of Maastricht, a real smile might lurk at last. Certainly, fewer and fewer of his countrymen will be able to disguise their relief.

The author is a fellow of the Institute for European Defence & Strategic Studies, London.

...and moreover

PETER BARNARD

I was confused but I am all right now. I have read the Sunday newspaper report which says that a business is going bust in Britain every six minutes. On Sunday night I saw the AA television commercial, which said that the AA was getting someone started every eight seconds. So now I am clear as to what needs to be done about the economy, which is a relief because I spent Saturday on a needless diversion, wondering if Norman Lamont could beat Newcastle United.

My wife started it. She returned from a trip into Bath complaining about the traffic therein. I said ah yes, it is that man Lamont and his friends from across the Channel plus all their hangers-on and flunkies and "sherpas" as they are amusingly called, that I will be the cause of it. No, she said, it is the football, it is Bristol Rovers who for some reason play their matches at Bath. They are having a home match against some foreign team, called Newcastle United. There are a lot of policemen escorting people along the pavements 'twixt train station and football stadium. The people are spilling into the road and chanting a mantra, she said, they are all drunk and unwashed. They are football supporters.

No, I said, that will be Chancellor Lamont. Are you sure, said my wife, they looked a mite scruffy to me, for finance ministers, and those that were not resting along the pavement were seated in old Cortinas which had flags tied to their aerials. Flags, I said, well

there you are. And the Cortinas are part of the security, such limousines as you will have contained that Kevin Keegan and his friends from Newcastle. And was there not a Cortina with "Norman and Rosemary" embazoned upon the windscreen? She thought there very possibly was, it rang a bell did that. There you are then, I said, I expect "Chancellor" would have been banned on security grounds.

I looked up the attendance: 7,487. That is about par for the Euro conference course, and certainly far larger than anything Bristol Rovers could hope to attract. But the clincher was the mantra, which after some prompting my wife recalled exactly: "We'll do whatever's necessary / We'll do whatever's necessary / Eye-eye-addio / We'll do whatever's necessary."

People all over Bath are humming it this morning, I daresay. It is a variation on an old football mantra, from the brief golden era between *Abide With Me* and the present fashion for tuneless baying. Of course Chancellor Lamont's team, ECOFIN, will get around to tuneless baying eventually, but on Saturday they stuck to a tuneful melody as stuck by a bunch of dangerous lunatics who might at any moment start smashing shop windows in order to dampen down economic activity.

Not that there is any. I calculate that in the time Lamont et al spent swaying on the terraces, as many as 3,941 businesses folded up, although I am not clear whether one every six minutes is

Message in a bottle: No

SUE LAWLEY, it seems, has still not been forgiven by Baroness Thatcher for presiding over one of the most tempestuous moments of her three victorious election campaigns. Attempts by the BBC to woo Lady Thatcher back on to *Desert Island Discs* for a second appearance have come to nothing — and her horror at the prospect of being interviewed again by Lawley, the last person with whom the former prime minister would choose to be marooned, is believed to be the reason.

The BBC is anxious to add Lady Thatcher to the small list of those who have been castaways twice. The programme-makers believe there would be enormous interest in a second broadcast, particularly if it were to coincide with the publication of her memoirs. The whole Western world would want to hear a BBC official.

Lady Thatcher last appeared on the programme in 1978 when she was given a gentle time by the avuncular Roy Plomley. An appearance with Lawley would be far more spirited, for it was she who asked questions from viewers on the BBC's *Nationwide* in May 1983, when Thatcher was put on the spot by Diana Gould, a part-time Cirencester teacher, who accused the prime minister of deliberately ordering the sinking of the Belgrano when the ship was sailing away from the Falklands.

Lawley repeatedly urged her to answer Gould's questions, and the press reported that an ordinary housewife had succeeded where Thatcher's professional political rivals had failed. Gould even managed to write a book about the experience, which Lady Thatcher has never forgotten. A BBC source says: "We will keep trying, but we don't think we will get her unless we agree to change the presenter. And that is not on."

Rambler strays
VANDALS have struck at St Clement Dane's church in the Strand, but not, as might have been expected, at the controversial monument to Bomber Harris, but to deprive poor Samuel Johnson of his reading matter. Someone has pinched the book which the bronze statue has spent the past 92 years happily reading.

The theft has deeply upset members of the Johnson Society and regulars at the church where Johnson used to worship, and an appeal is being contemplated to raise the money to replace the book. Brian Poag, the assistant verger, says: "It is inexplicable. He always sat in the north gallery above the pulpit. I hope he can be restored to his state of former glory. Johnson does not look right unless he has a book in his hand."

● Behind the scenes at *Classic FM* yesterday not all was as smooth as the gentle sounds wafting over the airwaves. On day one of the station's phone-in "human line", which listeners are told will promptly identify those irritating familiar tunes which they cannot quite remember, the station's experts were flummoxed. A recording of a hum was repeatedly played until the panel of five came up with an answer. Then they discovered that the tune was not to be found anywhere in the station's record library, and a messenger was despatched to W.H. Smith's. For those not listening at 9 am today, the elusive melody is the theme for Dr Finlay's Casebook.

Princely some

THE Prince of Wales is off to Brixton prison. Not to be detained in his mother's pleasure, but to exhibit at an art exhibition for prisoners which opens tomorrow. Whether the inmates will appreciate the Prince's rendering of a villa in Padua remains to be seen, although Charles' work has already done time in Dorchester prison as part of the travelling exhibition featuring mostly unknown artists.

The Brixton exhibition, sadly, is being billed as "The East Picture Show". Roy Woods, who masterminds the scheme from a community gallery in a South London squat, has run out of funds, although there are 50 prisons on a waiting list for his exhibitions. It costs £1,000 to send each exhibition for a

stretch inside, says Woods. "We need a fairy godmother." Not an uncommon plea by those on their way to Brixton.

Wise counsels

MORE than two months after the death of Sir Richard Francis, the British Council is finally ready to choose a new director-general. Recruitment consultants NB Selection will deliver ten names to the council board this week, and a decision is expected early next month. Candidates for the £80,000-a-year post must show "strong management skills". An insider comments: "The British Council is going through a transitional period and is looking for a manager rather than a campaigning director."

While this may not rule out some obvious candidates such as John Drummond, former controller of Radio 3, or John Tusa of the World Service, it seems the eventual choice is more likely to come from the business world. Names being mentioned are Sir Christopher Hogg, chairman of Courtaulds, Sir Kit McMahon, former chairman of Midland Bank.

The decision will be taken by the council board, which includes chairman Sir Martin Jacobs, deputy chairman Lord Chorley and the vice-chairman, MPs from opposite sides of the political divide, George Robertson and his newly-appointed colleague Tim Renton.

● Today is the centenary of the death of Alfred, Lord Tennyson whose poetry has stood the test of time better than most. After the claims that Rousseau and Victor Hugo would have supported Maastricht, which side will recruit the author of "Locksley Hall"?

Till the war-dams shord no longer,
And the battle flags were fur'd
In the Parliament of man.
The Federation of the world.

كتاب من الضرر



MAJOR'S EACH-WAY BET

The British government's policy towards the European Community is now at the mercy of the French electorate. John Major's measured speech yesterday gave nothing away. It went far enough in support of the Maastricht treaty to maintain his dignity as president of the Council of Ministers but carefully kept his options open should either the French, or subsequently the Danes a second time, vote for rejection. The British government remains publicly behind the Maastricht accords, but quite how far behind is being kept deliberately obscure.

In private Mr Major and his colleagues, with varying emphases, view the treaty as a botched blueprint for the future of any sensible European co-operation. Yet they are trapped by Britain's occupancy of the presidency until the end of the year and by their realisation that the French vote on September 20 will not be an end to the EC's worries.

A French no vote could plunge Europe's economy further into recession. Or, more likely, it could precipitate an overdue currency realignment and an economic upswing. A yes vote could restore confidence in progress to economic union, or more likely it could lead to further debilitating uncertainty as the pressure turns back on Denmark. Or none of this could matter, with Maastricht as irrelevant to what ought to have been the topic of Mr Major's speech yesterday: how to revitalise the economies of the 12 on a basis of EC free trade. Seldom can European politics have been open to such conflicting diagnoses.

When he came to office, Mr Major conducted his European diplomacy with some aplomb. He and his colleagues went to Maastricht in December 1991, having fought against a hopeless Dutch draft treaty, briefing fire and brimstone all the way. Mr Major succeeded at the treaty talks in two respects. He diluted some of the more unrealistic federal commitments and he disengaged Britain from those that he could not dilute. He opted out of the social chapter and a single currency. This disengagement was achieved without precipitating a de facto British withdrawal from the Community. The British thus managed to remain "at the heart of Europe" without having truck with its more extreme version. This was no mean performance.

Mr Major's conduct at Maastricht was perhaps more significant than his paper victories. Increasingly sceptical heads of government, especially from northern Europe, admired his defence of British interests and his emphasis on the EC meeting its immediate agenda, on it walking before it tried to run. The now famous "forgotten agenda" — farm reform, the single market, Gatt, control of the Brussels bureaucracy and a coherent budget — was still pending. Maastricht was before its time and would prove a distraction from more immediate tasks.

This scepticism was translated into action by the devastating Danish referendum, by subterranean rumbles on the Tory backbenches and, most spectacularly, by the cooling of France's once steady enthusiasm for anything emanating from Brussels. Suddenly a treaty that Britain had had to sign to remain within the EC process was becoming a political embarrassment. The seams of a "wider European union" were not only showing but coming apart. Brussels began to display a wholly novel sensitivity to charges of bureaucracy.

Then the much-predicted turning of the German worm began in earnest as the Bundesbank came out fighting against European monetary union and clobbered the markets with its recessionary policies. As the Latin states became grasping in their approach to budgetary reform, the northern states reacted by impeding budget increases.

To federalists, this was a foretaste of the Europe that would emerge from a rejection of Maastricht: a regression against the single market, against farm price reform, against wider membership, towards protectionism. Embittered lobbyists and bureaucrats would scheme to protect their interests. The central disciplines of majority voting that underpin

CLASSIC CHARM

With a dawn chorus of unusual vigour — Handel's coronation anthem *Zadok the Priest* — Britain's first nationwide independent radio station came on air at 6 am yesterday. Classic FM may have alarmed the more fastidious music-lovers with its advance talk of "hymn lines" and "gig guides", and of providing "classical music dressed by Benetton". But yesterday's broadcasting overture was undoubtedly played by a well-tuned ensemble.

The presentation is bright, unpretentious and professional, and those who had predicted a relentless barrage of famous tunes — *Nessus Dorma*, *The Four Seasons* and the hummable three minutes of Tchaikovsky's first piano concerto — have been proved unduly pessimistic. The popular melodies are curiously mingled with a decent amount of good music that has not yet been honoured by a Nigel Kennedy or Luciano Pavarotti recording. Indeed it is high-minded Radio 3 that is providing morning listeners with wall-to-wall Tchaikovsky, its current "composer of the week".

Classic FM and Radio 3 need not be competitors: they have quite different philosophies. Radio 3's output, despite the much-debated sweetening of its breakfast menu, is still largely designed for concentrated listening. It upholds the view that Beethoven, Brahms and Bartók have profound things to say that demand full attention.

Classic FM starts from the opposite premise, that great music is already part of the aural wallpaper and has been since at least the 18th century, when princes dined while Haydn fiddled. The idea that people plan their radio listening is nonsense; most tune

the single market would disintegrate. The EC would exist merely as a sequence of squabbling ministerial councils. The exchange rate mechanism would collapse. Disunity would reign everywhere, from interest rates to foreign affairs.

In recent weeks, as a French no vote became a possibility, this cataclysmic scenario has been studiously rewritten in the capitals of Europe — if only to soothe currency markets struggling within the ERM straitjacket. Mr Major's speech yesterday was part of the rewriting. A no vote would now be a pity, but not the end of European civilisation. The British presidency, pragmatic as ever, would be able to dispel the Maastricht fog and get down to implementing the forgotten agenda.

Jacques Delors would go. A chastened Brussels would be expected to implement that agenda and stop pressing its self-aggrandisement on each succeeding presidency. Furthermore, observers would expect a currency realignment, or at least a revaluation of the mark, to relieve pressure on the ERM. The British view of Europe (dare it be said, that set out by Margaret Thatcher at Bruges) could then be used as the template for further steps towards co-operation.

Nor would a yes vote be an unmitigated delight. After the changes of mood in Britain, Denmark and Germany, France too would now have lost its naive European idealism (for whatever self-interested reasons). A yes might calm feelings in Brussels and elsewhere. The battered train would still be on the rails; the European power game could still be played by the old rules. But Maastricht would not be the same again.

In particular, there would be the matter of Denmark. In among the clichés now clearly de rigueur for all presidency speeches, Mr Major gave a clear signal on this. Even if the French yes, the ball simply returns to the Danish court. If Denmark remains in the no camp, said Mr Major, "then all must think again. There can be no question of leaving one member behind. Britain would not be party to such an agreement."

This is a crucial commitment. Whatever France decides, the Danes will be returning to the Council of Ministers with a "shopping list" of changes to Maastricht — presumably substantive ones — to which the council must respond. This means further upheaval. Into that upheaval must be pitched Mr Major's own backbench troubles. Tory backbenchers will be expected once again to restrain themselves in anticipation of a foreign referendum. They know, as Mr Major's whips know that Maastricht ratification is a constitutional matter and must therefore be considered line by line on the floor of the House of Commons. Mr Major went out of his way to mention this yesterday: it is the whips' idea of hell.

For the moment, the prime minister is wise to bide his time. He contains within his cabinet ministers who are deeply sceptical of Maastricht. The lawyers among them know that its references to subsidiarity, inserted in the treaty at British insistence, mean next to nothing. Others suspect that Mr Major is motivated as much by a desire for an easy life in Europe as by any real enthusiasm for the document he signed at Maastricht. Either way, he is under a clear obligation as council president to steer a course set by what was an agreed treaty until that course is irretrievable. A French no would render it thus; so too, he indicated yesterday, would a French yes followed by another Danish no.

Mr Major is therefore committing himself to nothing at all. He may have persuaded himself that Maastricht is the lesser of the European evils that stare at him from across the Channel. He may mouth the phrases of the old Euro-enthusiasts, phrases that still sit oddly on his lips. A French yes would give him some temporary relief. But in his heart he must know that a French rejection would release him, his cabinet and his European colleagues from a bind that has afflicted Europe and impeded its progress to effective collective action for almost a year. Maastricht was a mistake. At some point, Mr Major must come out and say so.

BAIL HOSTEL FEARS

From Mrs Susan Sussman, JP

Sir, Most communities (report, August 25; letters, August 31) are afraid of having bail hostels on their doorsteps largely because they have had little or no dealings with them. Fear is based on the unknown. JPs, judges, members of the legal profession and the social services all have the distinct advantage of being shown over these establishments, thus being able to form rational opinions.

Only when members of communities who are expected to live with these establishments are also given the opportunity to view and understand the orderly way in which they are run will attitudes change.

Yours faithfully,
S. SUSSMAN,
55 Springfield Road, NW8.

August 25

The second danger is that Classic FM will fail in straightforward commercial terms, even with Time-Warner's backing. At present, advertising agencies are not exactly throwing money about. Well-established classical stations in America have had to struggle recently, and they do not have to compete with the BBC. Classic FM must claim around 7 per cent of the listening audience at its peak period in order to prosper — much higher than Radio 3 achieves. Little wonder, then, that it identifies its main competitors as Radio 2, Radio 4 and the remarkably successful "nostalgia pop" commercial stations.

Its future will depend finally on whether the loudly trumpeted explosion in classical music enjoyment is really a deep-lying trend, rather than (as the cynics would maintain) the ephemeral product of slick marketing by a few star performers. There is plenty of evidence that the real demand is there. A vast treasure-trove of virtually unheard melody awaits discovery by this new audience. Classic FM sounds like the perfect Pied Piper to lead them on their merry dance.

August 25

Yours faithfully,
M. J. COOKE
Whit Rigg House, Borrowdale Lane,
Lichfield, Staffordshire.
September 3.

August 25

Yours faithfully,
A. B. INGLEWOOD,
Wyckwood, 2 Castle Road,
Camberley, Surrey.

September 3.

August 25

Yours faithfully,
C. K. R. NUNNELEY,
Acting Chairman,
Investment Management Regulatory
Organisation Ltd,
Broadwalk House,
5 Appold Street, EC2.

August 28

Yours faithfully,
BARRY J. BLAIN,
85 Quinta Drive,
Barnet, Hertfordshire.
September 5.

August 28

Yours faithfully,
GORDON APSION,
11 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

August 28

Yours faithfully,
J. B. BLAIN

August 28



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 7: The Duke of York, Patron, this evening attended a Dinner for Acyclic Centre for Children, at the County Hall, Durham, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Durham (Mr David Grant).

Captain Rupert Maidment-Terton was in attendance.

The Princess Royal this afternoon visited the National Barn of Prey Centre at Newent to open the new Barn and Education Centre and was received by Lieutenant Colonel R.A. Coxwell-Rogers (Deputy Lieutenant of Gloucestershire).

KENSINGTON PALACE
September 7: The Prince of Wales this morning attended a Cer-

emony of the Prince's Trust at the Penny Hall Hotel, Sutton Coldfield.

Mr Hugh Menell was in attendance.

His Royal Highness this evening gave a Reception for the Penland South Pole Expedition at Kensington Palace.

KENSINGTON PALACE
September 7: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Artillery Regiment, today received Lieutenant Colonel Alan Deed on relinquishing the appointment of Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion and Lieutenant Colonel John McColl on assuming the appointment.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Richard I, reigned 1189-99; Oxford, 1157; Ludovico Ariosto, poet, Reggio Emilia, Italy, 1474; Auguste Wilhelm Schlegel, poet, Hanover, 1767; Frédéric Mistral, poet, Nobel laureate 1904; Bouches-du-Rhône, France, 1830; Antonín Dvořák, composer, Nelahozeves, Czechoslovakia, 1841; Siegfried Sassoon, poet and novelist, Brenchley, Kent, 1886.

DEATHS: Francisco Gómez de Querido y Villegas, poet, Sucre,

Spain, 1645; Ann Lee, founder of the American sect of Shakers, Watervliet, New York, 1784; George Bradshaw, originator of railway guides, Christians, Norway, 1853; Faust I, King of Iraq 1921-33, 1933; Richard Strauss, composer, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, 1949; André Derain, painter, Garches, France, 1954.

The Severn bridge opened, 1966. Richard Nixon was pardoned by President Ford for alleged offences in the Watergate affair, 1974.

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David Freeman, founder of Opera Factory, a resident company at the South Bank Centre, London, coming face to face with a sheepish member of the chorus in a revival of Harrison Birtwistle's *Yan Tan Tethera*, which runs at the Queen Elizabeth Hall until Saturday. The company is celebrating its tenth anniversary

School announcements

BEDALES SCHOOL
Autumn term began on Sunday at Bedales School where Ian Newton has succeeded Euan MacAlpine as Headmaster. Work began in August on the building of new boarding accommodation for all boys and on the first phase of a new classroom development. The school recently launched a Elm Appeal to celebrate its Centenary Year, which falls in 1993: the Appeal for funds towards the Bedales Oliver Theatre.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD COLLEGE
The Winter Term began on Thursday, September 3, at Bishop's Stortford College. Ian Bateman is Head of School. Hamer will be performed on October 19, 20 and the Musical Captain Sturwick on November 10, 11, 12. There will be an Open Morning on September 26 and a Prep Schools' Morning on October 3. Details are available from the Headmaster's Secretary.

BRIGHTON COLLEGE
Michaelmas Term begins on September 8. Mr P.V. Robinson becomes Director of Studies in place of Mr P.J. Withers who retires from full-time teaching. Anna Mairi is Head of School with Sophie Grimes and Jeremy White as his deputies. The Dyslexic Support Unit for children assessed as Dyslexic but with high intelligence, opens this term.

Opening Evening takes place on Friday, October 2 and Friday, October 16. Open Day is on October 24, when the Guest of Honour will be Baroness Cumberland, CBE. The Lower Sixth Entrance and Scholarship examinations take place on Wednesday, November 25. The Lower School Play, *Hobson's Choice*, will take place on November 26 and 27 and the Christmas Concert is on December 4. The Old Brightonian Association Dinner is on December 5 and the Carol Services are on December 10 and 11. Further details may be obtained from the secretary, 0635 20293.

CANFORD SCHOOL
Canford School opens today for the Christmas Term with Mr J.D. Lever as Headmaster. Mr J.R. Orme becomes Housemaster of Salisbury House. Marriots, the new girls' house, is open. Ashion Ward is Head of School. Scholarships exams for Sixth Form entry take place on Monday and Tuesday, November 16 and 17. Term ends with the Carol Service in Wimborne Minster on December 18.

CHARTERHOUSE
The Oration Quarter starts today, R.R. Rowland-Clark is Head of School; Michelle Dow is Head Girl. R.J. Alder is Captain of Football. The Eighth Sir Robert Birley Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Mr Nicholas Welsh on Wednesday, September 30, at 5pm. The Charterhouse Poetry Festival will be held from September 17 to 20. A Reunion will be held at Charterhouse on Saturday, October 10, for all those in the School during 1949 and who left in or before QO 1955 (details from the Recorder). The Founder's Day Dinner in London will be on Wednesday, December 9. Easter is from October 23 to November 1.

CHRISTIAN BRETHFELD
The Quantum Mass on Saturday, December 12. There will be a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of John Wilson at 3pm in the Chapel on October 3.

CLIFFORD COLLEGE
The Michaelmas Term begins today at Brockholes School, Newbury and ends on December 12. There are

159 pupils in school and joint Headboys are Matthew Harrison and Nick Watts. Bonfire Night is on November 7 and the Carol Services are on December 10 and 11. Further details may be obtained from the secretary, 0635 20293.

CODDLING SCHOOL
Coddling School opens today for the Christmas Term with Mr J.D. Lever as Headmaster. Mr J.R. Orme becomes Housemaster of Salisbury House. Marriots, the new girls' house, is open. Ashion Ward is Head of School. Scholarships exams for Sixth Form entry take place on Monday and Tuesday, November 16 and 17. Term ends with the Carol Service in Wimborne Minster on December 18.

CRANBROOK SCHOOL
The Quantum Mass on Saturday, December 12. There will be a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of John Wilson at 3pm in the Chapel on October 3.

DAVENPORT SCHOOL
The Autumn Term begins today at Davenport School, Newbury and ends on December 12. There are

309 pupils in school and joint Headboys are Matthew Harrison and Nick Watts. Bonfire Night is on November 7 and the Carol Services are on December 10 and 11. Further details may be obtained from the secretary, 0635 20293.

DEAN SCHOOLS
The Autumn Term begins today, R.R. Rowland-Clark is Head of School; Michelle Dow is Head Girl. R.J. Alder is Captain of Football. The Eighth Sir Robert Birley Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Mr Nicholas Welsh on Wednesday, September 30, at 5pm. The Charterhouse Poetry Festival will be held from September 17 to 20. A Reunion will be held at Charterhouse on Saturday, October 10, for all those in the School during 1949 and who left in or before QO 1955 (details from the Recorder). The Founder's Day Dinner in London will be on Wednesday, December 9. Easter is from October 23 to November 1.

DAVISON'S SCHOOL
Term starts today; Nadine Smith is Head Girl. The Ruby Anniversary Ball takes place on September 12 and the Commemoration Service on November 5, at 2.30pm at St Mary's, East Lavant.

DEAN SCHOOLS
The Michaelmas Term begins today at Dean Acheson's (Brown's) today.

MALISIA SCHOOL
The Christmas Term starts today at Malisia with 185 boys in the school. Mr R.H. Robinson, JP, has taken over as Chairman of Governors from Mr W.P. Ward, who remains on the Board. *The Wizard of Oz* will be performed on December 3, 4, 5 and the Carol Service will take place in Kilwick Church on December 15. The Head of School is Duncan Humphreys and Charles Wilson.

MONMOUTH SCHOOL
Michaelmas Term begins today and ends with the Carol Service on December 17. Mr J. Behan will be our Headmaster. Mr M.J. O'Brien takes over as Master of Sixth Form and Mr D.C. Adams as Careers Master. Mr D. McLean-Steel joins the staff to teach English and Mr C. During from Redbord School, Cape Town, joins at half-term when Mr P.D.R. Anthony, Second Master, takes sabbatical leave in his absence. Mr A.E. Barlow will be deputy. A. Mohindra will be Head of School and G.D. Williams will be Captain of Rugby Football. The School Play, *The Cherry Orchard*, will be presented on November 26, 27 and 28. The Duncan Crane Memorial Lecture will be given by Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Spear. The Knight Lecture on November 7, will be given by Sir Anthony Parsons. The Advent Carol Service in Bath Abbey is on December 16.

MORIA HOUSE, EASTBOURNE
Christmas Term at Moria House begins today and ends on Tuesday, December 15. On the retirement of Miss Maureen Robnett as Head of Boarding, we welcome Miss Judy Why as Second Deputy Headmistress (Pastoral). Mrs End Wayman continues as Deputy Headmistress (Academic and

MALSIS SCHOOL
The Christmas Term starts today at Malsis with 185 boys in the school. Mr R.H. Robinson, JP, has taken over as Chairman of Governors from Mr W.P. Ward, who remains on the Board. *The Wizard of Oz* will be performed on December 3, 4, 5 and the Carol Service will take place in Kilwick Church on December 15. The Head of School is Duncan Humphreys and Charles Wilson.

MICHAELMAS SCHOOL
Michaelmas Term begins today and ends with the Carol Service on December 17. Mr J. Behan will be our Headmaster. Mr M.J. O'Brien takes over as Master of Sixth Form and Mr D.C. Adams as Careers Master. Mr D. McLean-Steel joins the staff to teach English and Mr C. During from Redbord School, Cape Town, joins at half-term when Mr P.D.R. Anthony, Second Master, takes sabbatical leave in his absence. Mr A.E. Barlow will be deputy. A. Mohindra will be Head of School and G.D. Williams will be Captain of Rugby Football. The School Play, *The Cherry Orchard*, will be presented on November 26, 27 and 28. The Duncan Crane Memorial Lecture will be given by Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Spear. The Knight Lecture on November 7, will be given by Sir Anthony Parsons. The Advent Carol Service in Bath Abbey is on December 16.

MOUNTAIN COMBE SCHOOL

The Michaelmas Term begins today. Commemoration will be on October 23 and 24; Clarendon House will be opened by Miss Jean Howell, former Headmistress of Clarendon, and the prizes will be distributed by Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Spear. The Knight Lecture on November 7, will be given by Sir Anthony Parsons. The Advent Carol Service in Bath Abbey is on December 16.

NEWTON ABBEY, EASTBOURNE
The Autumn Term begins today. Peter Knight is Captain of School, Nicholas Gray, Vice Captain and Peter Knight, Captain of Rugby Football. Speech Day is on September 19 and Vivian Anthony, Secretary of HMC, will be Vice Headmistress. The Annual Carol Service in Bath Abbey is on December 16.

REED'S SCHOOL
The Autumn Term begins today. Peter Knight is Captain of School, Nicholas Gray, Vice Captain and Peter Knight, Captain of Rugby Football. Speech Day is on September 19 and Vivian Anthony, Secretary of HMC, will be Vice Headmistress. The Annual Carol Service in Bath Abbey is on December 16.

ST FRANCIS' COLLEGE, LEIDSWORTH
The Autumn Term began on Thursday, September 3, and will end on Friday, December 11. Prize Giving will be held on Friday, September 25, and the guest of honour will be the Bar-

ness Trumpington. The College is holding an Open Afternoon on Sunday, October 18, and the Senior School production of *The Insect Play* will be held in the St Francis' Theatre on Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5. The College celebrates its Diamond Jubilee in 1993 and details of major events will be circulated later this term and published in this column in the New Year.

Uppingham

Michaelmas Term started on Saturday, September 5. Mr and Mrs Stewart Drummond take over from Mr and Dr Andrew Cunningham, who succeeded Mr Peter de Vou on the latter's appointment to the Headship of Sherborne Heights. Dr Jennifer Ingram, Miss Amanda Horrex and Miss Kristen Kepler are joining the staff. Roderick Hills is Captain of the School, with Fiona Macdiarmid and James Beaumont as his deputies. There are Open Days for prospective girl entrants on September 19, and for prospective boy entrants on September 26 and 30; details from the Admissions Secretary on 0572 82216. Sixth Form Academic and Music Scholarships are on November 9, 10 and 11. The Chapel Choir sing Evensong at St George's Chapel, Windsor on September 30, at 5.15pm. West Side Story will be performed in the Theatre on November 18-21 and Measure for Measure on December 8-10. The Preacher on Remembrance Sunday will be N.J.C. Gandon Esq. Oldies who entered the School between 1965 and 1975 who have not received an invitation to the OU occasion on Saturday, October 3, should contact Malcolm Bussey at the School.

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The Autumn Term began on Thursday, September 3, and will end on Friday, December 11. Prize Giving will be held on Friday, September 25, and the guest of honour will be the Bar-

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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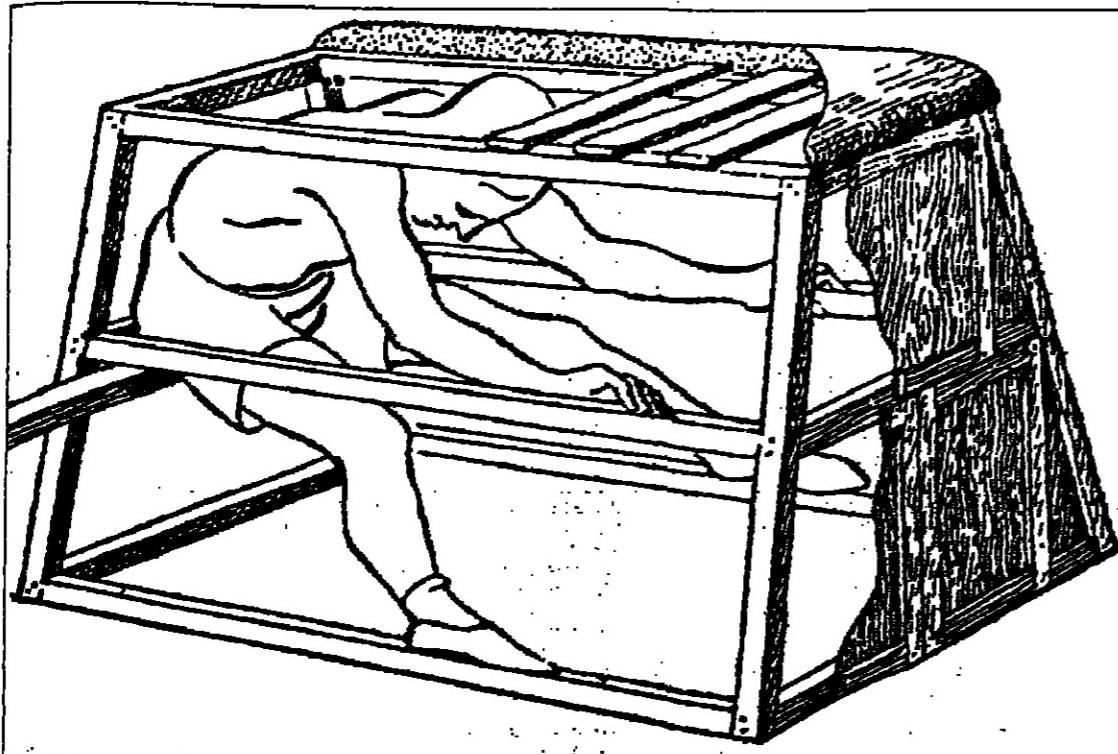
DEATHS

DEATHS

MEMORIAL SERVICES

OBITUARIES

WING COMMANDER ROGER MAW



Framework construction of the vaulting-horse as illustrated in Eric Williams's book.

Wing Commander Roger Maw, who designed and built the wooden vaulting-horse used by his fellow prisoners-of-war in one of the most ingenious escapes of the second world war, died on August 19 aged 86. He was born on June 24, 1906.

THE Wooden Horse escape by prisoners-of-war at Stalag Luft III in Sagan, Germany, became one of the classic stories of the second world war. Inspired by Homer's story of how the Greeks used a wooden horse to infiltrate the city of Troy, the Stalag Luft III PoWs conceived the idea of using a vaulting-horse as a visual and psychological cover for the digging of an underground escape route out of Stalag Luft III.

The camp carpenter declined to participate in the project: on the grounds that his equipment had been obtained on trust from the German authorities and was vital for the maintenance of camp morale. So Maw—who had studied carpentry at school, had once built a three-wheel

car and was a constant source of make-shift gadgetry in the camp—was recruited to construct the vaulting-horse.

Using scrapwood, pieces of Red Cross food-parcel crates and the ends of beams surreptitiously sown from the roofs of huts, he built a vaulting-frame which stood 4 ft 6 ins high and had a base covering an area of 5 ft by 3 ft. It was carried out each day to a point close to the camp perimeter wire and then used—in full view of the guards—ostensibly to improve the fitness of the prisoners. But while the prisoners' "athletics team" performed their gymnastic routines, jumping and somersaulting on and over the vaulting-horse, fellow PoWs—hidden one by one in the horse—were secretly tunnelling to freedom underneath. They painstakingly dug their way towards the outside world before returning to the horse, ready to be carried back to their huts, minutes before the exercise period ended. The soil they removed as they tunneled was meticulously collected and stored alongside the men as they

were carried back. It was then either buried under the floorboards of their huts or conveyed in pockets, socks and handkerchiefs to be scattered about the camp compound. They used Maw's tools. He, meanwhile, had fashioned a replica set of tools to display and fool the guards.

Three prisoners managed to escape before the tunnel was discovered by the Germans: Flight Lieutenants Oliver Philpot and Eric Williams and Captain Eric Condor. Maw himself and the other members of the escape committee remained in the camp for another three years until liberated by the British in 1945.

THE Wooden Horse escape inspired a book of the same name by Eric Williams, published by Collins in 1949, in which Maw features under the name of "Wings". Williams later wrote the screenplay for the 1950 film directed by Jack Lee, starring Leo Genn, David Tomlinson and Anthony Steele with a cast of supporting actors which included Peter Finch and Bryan Forbes.



Wing Commander Roger Maw.

Roger Hargreaves Maw, a slightly built man with a moustache, was the son of a Lincolnshire landowner. He was educated at Westerleigh School, St Leonards-on-Sea, and Oundle. Having learned to fly as an RAF reservist in 1927, he joined 503 Squadron flying Fairey Fawn biplane light day bombers. He served India for three years returning to Britain in 1936 and joining 18 Squadron. The following year he joined 105, an Oudax squadron, and then became an instructor at No 3 Flying Training School. After staff appointments in Nos 20 and 23 Groups in 1940, he rejoined No 142 in 1941 and later that year became commander of 12 Squadron Wellingtons at Birkenhead. In 1942 he took command of 108 Squadron in the Western Desert but in August was shot down. He bailed out but

injured his leg as he landed. After surviving in the desert for three days he was captured by the Germans and taken to Stalag Luft III.

He was a striking figure in the camp, decked out in a bright yellow shirt with a large red neckerchief, grey flannel trousers, Egyptian sandals and pink socks. These were the clothes he was wearing when he was shot down.

"I thought I'd dress like a foreigner so that I wouldn't be noticed if I had to bail out," he explained. "But I must have dressed as the wrong sort of foreigner."

After the war he returned to Lincolnshire and farmed at Welton, near Lincoln, before retiring to the Wolds village of Walsby.

He leaves a widow, Janet, and three children, Michael, Jocelyn and Tessa.

TEDDY TURNER



Teddy Turner, actor and comedian, died on August 29 aged 75 at his home in Horforth, Leeds. He was born on June 13, 1917.

TEDDY Turner, for many years a familiar face on the Northern club circuit, achieved television fame late in life when he created brief but memorable Yorkshire characters in two of Britain's most popular programmes, *Coronation Street* and *Emmerdale Farm*, as it was then known.

Gaunt visaged and balding, Turner, with his dry sense of humour and his gruff style of delivery, appealed instantly to the fans of the rival shows. In *Coronation Street*, he played the grouchy dustcart driver Chalkie Whiteley, whose dour approach to life contrasted so neatly with another favourite character, the bookish Curly Watts.

In *Emmerdale* Turner was coincidentally cast as another Whiteley, this time with the Christian name Bill, a blunt speaking farmer. He played yet another Yorkshireman in *All Creatures Great and Small*.

He came to the cast of *Coronation Street* in 1982 and his character remained until the following year. He joined *Emmerdale* in February 1989 and stayed in the series for a year and a half until he was "written out" for on-screen appearances, although the character lived on.

in the storyline for another year before his death was finally announced. Other programmes in which Turner featured were *Ripping Yarns*, and the long-running sit-com *Never the Twain*, in which he gave strong support to co-stars Windsor Davies and Donald Sinden.

Teddy Turner was also well known locally for his industry in raising funds for charity. His proudest professional oc-

CATHERINE KOUSMINE

Catherine Kousmine, holistic dietician, died in Lausanne on August 24 aged 87. She was born on September 17, 1904 at a large estate on the Volga 300 miles from Moscow.

WITH THE storm clouds of the revolution already darkening, the Kousmines, an Orthodox Russian family with two young daughters, arrived in Switzerland in 1916. Having lost their Volga properties—it used to take the father, specialising in sunflower cultivation, three days on horseback to inspect the estate—the parents were determined that the two girls should be fully self-supporting. Both graduated at Lausanne University, the elder, Tatiana, in physics and Catherine in medicine.

Once established at Lakeside Lutry, close by Lausanne, as a successful pediatrician, Catherine Kousmine became increasingly interested in research on the effects of diet, not only in general health but also in treatment of diseases such as cancer, arthritis and multiple sclerosis. This, in 1955, was the subject of her first book.

In it she explained the role of vegetable fibres, vitamins, minerals and other essential nutrients. The book, offering, as it did, hope to many sufferers, touched off prolonged and sometimes emotional controversy, particularly on the danger of delaying surgical intervention while di-

etary prescriptions were followed. At the same time, cancer specialists readily acknowledged Kousmine's qualities as an intuitive and highly intelligent physician whose charismatic personality helped patients to fight off despair.

Not in dispute was the sound scientific sense of her dietary principles, basically vegetarian. According to Dr Christian Schaller, of Geneva, who studied her method and its results, Kousmine was "among the first to show that illness does not necessarily mean treatment with medications, that food and one's living habits are part of medicine. Indeed, holistic medicine owes her a great deal."

Dr Schaller is one of about 85 doctors, 15 Swiss and most of the others in France, who are members of the Paris-based Kousmine Medical Association, formed three years ago when she nominally retired. The Lausanne cantonal hospital menu continues to feature Budwig Cream, a breakfast with vitamin-rich cereals freshly-ground, prepared according to the Kousmine method.

Her best-known book, published in 1980, was *Soyez Bien Dans Votre Assiette* (a play on the French phrase "être bien dans sa peau") *jusqu'à 80 ans plus*. In the introduction, she spoke about "degenerative illnesses...man is a victim of his condition...becoming more fragile from one generation to the next...children agitated in school, finding it difficult to concentrate and learn...one in five with spectacles, half of adolescents with bent backs."

She went on to cite examples she had encountered in her research—in conjunction with Zurich University for over a decade and thereafter independently—into the consequences of what people were eating. She gave a case-by-case account of a number of her patients, some cured, some with alleviation of acute symptoms, others past the point of no return.

She deplored what she saw as the medical profession's tendency to concentrate, in effect, on a particular area without sufficient thought being given to the body as a whole.

Kousmine was still alert and active, concerned as ever at widespread dietary ignorance and the effects of excessive pesticides and fertilizers in agriculture, when complications following a fall terminated her personal eighth year of the "plus" referred to in her book's title.

A Geneva hospital dietician, Corinne Kehl, paid her this tribute: "It is partly thanks to Dr. Kousmine that people are getting away from the morning habit of eating croissants and, instead, turning to a more healthy breakfast." Catherine Kousmine, who was married but took back her own name after divorce, is survived by her son, Jean Luc.

Birthdays today

Sheila Countess of Birkenhead

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sheila Countess of Birkenhead was held yesterday in the Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street. The Rev W.M. Atkins officiated.

Miss Alice Townsend and Margaret Townsend, granddaughters, read the lesson and Miss Harriet Crawley read from the works of Shelley. The Earl of Longford gave an address. Among others present were:

Mr John and Lady Juliet Townsend (son-in-law and daughter), Miss Eleanor Townsend (granddaughter), Viscount and Viscountess Camrose (brother and sister-in-law), the Hon Mrs Macaulay (sister), the Hon Mrs Julian Berry (sister-in-law), Mr Simon Berry, the Hon Adrian and Mrs Berry, the Hon Nicholas Berry, Mr and Mrs Cullen, Domingo Cullen, the Hon Eleanor Berry, Lord and Lady Chetwynde, the Hon Christopher and Mrs Chetwynde, Mr Michael Chetwynde, Mr and Mrs Thomas Williams, the Hon Thomas and Mrs Pakenham, Mr and Mrs Laurence Kelly, Mr and Mrs Nigel McNair Scott, the Hon Alastair and Mrs Hoyer Miller, Mr Mark Macaulay, Mr Rupert Macaulay, Mrs Charles Williams and

Memorial service

Mr Caspar Gilroy, Mrs L E Carrick Smith, Mrs Claudia Lennox.

—
Mary Duchess of Roxburghe, the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava, Lady Rupert Nevill, the Countess of Anram, the Countess of Longford, Patricia Countess of Dundee, Viscountess Boyd of Mermon, Lady Butler of Saffron Walden, Lord Dacre of Glanton, Lord Abinger (Kens-Shelley Memorial Association) with Mr Ken Prichard-Jones and Mrs C M Goe-Jacqueline Lady Killearn, Mr Paul Channon, MP, Mrs David Howell, Lady Alexandra Metcalfe, Lady Anne Cowdray, Lady Helen Smith, the Hon Jeremy Deedes (executive editor, *The Daily Telegraph*, also representing the editor-in-chief, *The Telegraph*), the Hon Mark Lennan-Boyd, MP, the Hon Julia Sinton, the Hon Mrs Haddon, the Hon Robert Corbett, the Hon Mrs Fiona Morgan, Sir Edward Ford, Mr Michael Grylls, MP, and Lady Grylls, Lady Jacob, Lady Elmhirst, Elizabeth Midlam McGillycuddy of The Rocks.

Mr Aidan Crawley, Mr James Lee-Milne, Mr Tom Cattrell, Mr David Leigh-Hunt, Mr Neville Ford, Mr Christopher Ballou, Mrs Ian Dunlop, Mr Jeremy Rees, Mrs Roderick More O'Farrell, Miss Joanna Richardson, Judge Robert Pryor, QC, and

Church news

Mr Jeremy Bromfield, Canon Warden, St Albans Cathedral; to be an Honorary Lay Canon of St Albans Cathedral (St Albans).

Church of Scotland

Retirements

The Rev Alan Byers from Garmrie with King Edward.

The Rev David S Forsyth from Belhelvie.

The Rev Duncan McLachlan from Sherwood, Paisley.

The Rev David Reid from Largside with St Monans.

The Rev John Smith from Lochmaddy and Trumisgarry.

Church in Wales

The Rev Mark Richard Preece, Assistant Curate, Penarath with Laverock, to be Vicar of Ewenny with St Bride's Major.

Archaeology

Crystal skull sparks at Aztec exhibition

BY NORMAN HAMMOND

AZTEC and Maya treasures from the British Museum's collection, rarely seen in public, will go on display at the Hayward Gallery, London, this month. They include carved wooden drums, stone masks, and a crystal skull.

The objects will accompany a loan exhibition from Mexico's National Museum which opens on September 17.

Among the Mexican pieces is a Maya jade mosaic mask recently found at the great city of Calakmul, deep in the Campeche rainforest, and shown for the first time outside that country.

The British Museum's Maya collection has not been shown in London for nearly two decades. The Hayward exhibition includes one of the carved lintels from Yaxchilan, a city where the sculptures

portray rulers and their wives in bizarre scenes of blood-letting.

There will also be a series of polychrome plaster heads from Louisiane in Belize, a "Maya Portrait Gallery" still largely unpublished and unknown to the scholarly world.

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CHARLES WELTNER

Charles Longstreet Weltner, Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, who sacrificed a promising political career in the 1960s because he believed in civil rights, died of cancer at his home in Atlanta on August 31 aged 64. He was born in Atlanta on December 1927.

SUPPORT for the Negro cause was hardly a popular stand to take among Democrats in the American Deep South in 1963. But Charles Weltner, who arrived on Capitol Hill as a 35-year-old Congressman from Georgia's fifth congressional district, was determined to stand up for his principles. Backed by a coalition of white and black moderates, he had defeated James C. Davis, a segregationist eight-term incumbent in the Democratic Party's primary election. Now, as the milestone Civil Rights Act of 1964 was forced through a reluctant Congress by President Lyndon Johnson, it was time to stand up and be counted.

At first, Weltner had opposed the bill, but by the time a Senate version was sent to the House in July, he had changed his mind. Standing before an astonished chamber, he announced that his conscience demanded that he support the measure.

"We in the South," he said, "face some difficult decisions. We can offer resistance and defiance, with their harvest of strife and tumult. We can suffer continued demonstrations, with their wake of violence and disorder. Or we can acknowledge this measure as the law of the land."

Weltner was one of only seven Southerners in the House to vote in favour of the Civil Rights Act.

In the 1964 primary election he won by a narrow margin, and then defeated his Republican opponent in November of that year. But his support of the 1965 Voting Rights Act further angered many white voters in Georgia.

Weltner's political career came to an end the following year when the Democratic nominee for Governor of Georgia was Lester G. Maddox, a segregationist who had run a race-baiting campaign that used the civil rights legislation of 1964 and 1965 to rouse the fears of white voters. Weltner, who had won his own primary, balked at the Democratic Party's requirement that all candidates should sign a pledge of loyalty to Maddox, and in a dramatic announcement to the House in October 1966 he withdrew from the race. Maddox was elected.

Weltner was the scion of a distinguished Southern family. His great-great-grandmother was the first Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, and his great-grandfather, General Thomas Cobb, helped to write the Confederate Constitution and was killed at Fredericksburg during the Civil War. His father, a lawyer, served as chancellor of the state university system. After leaving Congress, Weltner practiced law in Atlanta and was appointed to the State Supreme Court as an Associate Justice in 1981. He became Chief Justice only three months ago, and was intending to retire in December.

Charles Weltner's first marriage ended in divorce. He is survived by his second wife, two sons and two daughters.



APPRECIATION

Cyril Smith

MAI I add some brief comments to your excellent obituary of Cyril Stanley Smith (September 2)? Cyril was the master in the eyes of practitioners of fundamental metallurgical research: in particular, his various studies of the universal features of microstructure have remained indispensable reading for several decades. He returned with enthusiasm to his love of this study in his last years. Another claim to fame was his devotion to the history of metallurgy. This began in the 1930s when he began buying (for what now seem) utterly absurd

prices, copies of the great classics of metallurgy, such as the books by Agricola and Biringuccio, and he published translations of several. At his death, his collection is unique in its range and importance and it is good to know that it will go intact to a great American library specialising in the history of technology.

His books and essays on metallurgical history have been of central importance, especially so his *History of Metallurgy* and the *Sorby Centennial Symposium on the History of Metallurgy* which he edited.

Professor Robert Cahn

SEPT 8 ON THIS DAY 1905

every form of wrongdoing that brigandage gradually became omnipotent, and therein lay the germs of the present anarchy and of civil war between the Tartars and Armenians. The worst feature is the fact that the oil companies warned the Government almost a week before hand of what was coming and implored it to send troops, but none came: the anarchy of the authorities being then concentrated upon the massacres at Shusha, in the adjoining province.

The following statement, reproduced from the *Bourse Gazette*, sheds a strong light upon the Transcaucasian drama:

The authorities of Erivan have discovered indisputable evidence of a Mahomedan plot for the overthrow of the country. A band of arms has been found on Crown lands bordering on the Aras. The agent for this property, a Muslim, furnished arms to his coreligionists on both sides of the Persian frontier for massacres at Erivan and Nakchichevan. The Persian Khans of Makin have always been on close terms with the Tartar khans of Nakchichevan and co-operate with them for the spread of the Panislamic propaganda, of which Baku is



PARENTS p5
How do
English
children view
Europeans?

LIFE & TIMES

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8 1992

MEDIA p7
How the BBC
should be
marketing
itself

Take it on the chin, and grin

A vicious cartoon can be a godsend to a politician, as an exhibition in London illustrates. Matthew Parris explains

Mummy I don't like it!" squealed an infant close by. She was looking at the *Spitting Image* representation of Mr Kenneth Baker as a slug.

"Ooh yes," replied her mum, approvingly, "Isn't it horrid?" She called her young son: "Here, Stephen, come and look at this yucky thing! He's a famous politician, you know."

Did I imagine it, or did I see Mr Baker's little feakers twitch with pleasure?

The infant her mum, the slug and I were at a splendid exhibition of political cartoons and caricatures now on at the Barbican Centre. The Cutting Edge.

"Not so much the cutting edge," writes one visitor in the exhibition Comments' book, "more a blunt instrument." At the Barbican now, just as in magazines and newspapers down through the ages of English satire, the great and the good are beaten over the head with a variety of blunt instruments, sneered and spat at, and compared variously to dogs, pigs, monkeys and hyenas. Who said that true satire used the razor not the pike staff? With the exception of the elegant and good-humoured Peter Brookes and the classy Chris Riddell, the best on display here proceeds not by polished swordplay but by the well-aimed kick in the crotch. Nothing affords greater pleasure.

It's delicious. Yet, though there are many good jokes in this exhibition, the biggest joke is on the artists themselves. For it is not they but their supposed victims, the politicians, who emerge as the stars of this show. They are subjected to every kind of calumny and indignity at the Barbican and we doubt not for a moment that they deserve it — yet they are not diminished by it: it only augments their reputation. I know nobody in the cabinet who would be anything but sorry to discover that he or she does not feature in this show. The slugs have the last laugh.

"Oh yes," said the infant's mother to her friend, confronted by the centrepiece of this exhibition, the brilliant, disturbing, tableau of the Tory Last Supper, depicting Mrs Thatcher as Christ: "It's offensive. Gosh!" She and her friend stared in wonderment, enjoying being offended some more. "And I agree it's a blasphemy, don't you? I really don't think people should be allowed to attack her like that. Poor Mrs Thatcher!"

There they all are, the cartoonists in the printed catalogue, making (many of them) prim little statements about their sacred duty to puncture political myths — and not one of them appears to see what stares us in the face: that lampoonery need not puncture; it often initiates. By mocking politicians, we may serve them. Far more than we realise, cartoonists and jokers become part of the image-making we thought we had come to explode.

Take Mrs Thatcher. Scarfe, Steadman and Steve Bell (all featured at the Barbican) construct her — Scarfe with an acid wit, Steadman with stunning nastiness, and Bell with schoolboy hilarity — into three different kinds of monster. But the monsters have this important trait in common: they are brutal, they are effective, and they trample their enemies.



Cruel: Luck and Flaw's *Private Eye* 1992 general election cover



Time runs out: Peter Kennard's "Gulf" (1991)



Two parties with the same policies: Peter Brookes's chameleons for *The Times* (March, 1992)

Perhaps because so many cartoonists' sensibilities are rooted in a liberal conscience, they assume that to portray a woman as cruel and bloodthirsty is to devalue her in the eyes of their audience. Not so. British newspaper readers are an aversive creature. Superficially he disapproves of brutality, subliminally he respects it. He sniggers at the cartoon and forgets it. What he remembers is the aura of power surrounding Mrs Thatcher which the cartoon has helped reinforce.

Thatcher as Boudicca, Tebbitt as Dracula, Owen as psychopath... For 12 years cartoonists drew everything they had at the previous prime minister yet ended up only by bolstering her ego and reputation. To Neil Kinnock they were kinder: "Kinnock as clown" was the worst he got and that single image did him more harm than the whole

• The Cutting Edge continues at the Barbican Art Gallery, Silk Street, London, EC2 (071 638 8891) until October 18.

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Illustration: Steve Bell

ROMEO AND JULIET: The Scottish Ballet's production in Piccadilly in its repertoire. John Cranko's choreography of Prokofiev's Shakespeare piece, which was first created for Carla Fracci back in 1958. At the end of the week the company performs a triple bill of Overgrown Path by Alan Ayckbourn, based on Agatha Christie's *Murder and Who Cares?* by George Balanchine, using Gershwin's classic songs.

Lyceum Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 7EJ. Romeo and Juliet: Today-Thurs, 7.45pm, mats Wed. Triple Bill: Fri, Sat, 7.45pm, Sun, mat, 2pm.

BORIS GODUNOV: A semi-staged version of Boris's North's splendid production of the opera, which has come to the Phoenix. John Tomlinson gives his authoritative account of the title role. The cast, singing in English, also includes Jeffrey Lawton, Graeme Bond, Michael Andrew Best, Ann Murray, and Michelle Arnestad. Paul Daniels conducts.

Royal Albert Hall, South Kensington, London SW1 1071-433 9998. Today, 7.30pm.

ALFRED SISLEY: This show encourages a major reassessment of the artist's work and, particularly of his work of the 1880s, when the organisers contend, he arrived at his own version of the series painting, radically different from the accepted Royal Academy's *Art in Academia*, London W1 071-435 7438. Daily, 10am-6pm, until Oct 18.

YO TENGU UN TO AMERICA II: An Uncle In America! Albert Boedler's theatre company Els Jagers' contribution towards the Columbia celebrations intelligently criticizes the Conquistadors.

AMPHIBIANS: Latest Billy Ryche play, charting change and the passing of old tradition in County Wexford (where else?).

The Mt, Barbican Centre, EC2 071-58085. Tonight, 7.30pm.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS: Kenneth Cranham's superb re-creation of a repressive family in Priestley's drama, Stephen Daldry's first production at the NT.

National Theatre, Lyttelton, South Bank, SE1 071-58085. Preview to Thurs, 7.30pm. Opens Fri, 7pm, Sat, mat 2.15pm and 7.30pm.

DEATH AND DANCING: The love of two androgynes, written and performed by Clare Dowse (who wrote Why Is John Lennon Wearing a Star? with Mark Pritchard, from the New Zealand stage). Theatr Clwyd, BAC, 176 Liverpool Hill, Battersea, SW1 1071-222 2232. Tues to Sat, 8pm, Sun, 6pm.

FROM A JACK TO A KING: Witty and stylized version of Macbeth's climb to the top, set in the world of rock bands and shock rockers. At the Ambassadors, West Street, London WC2 071-836 6111. Mon-Thurs, 8.15pm, Fri and Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm, 120 mins.

HECUBA: The suffering of war's victims, as seen by Euripides. Laurence Boswell's new production set in modern-day San Francisco. Director, Genevieve Lumbard, R1 071-229 0706. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm.

THE MADDAS HANES: Roger Allam heads the cast in Granville Barker's proto-feminist, serious comedy, set in an Edwardian fashion house.

Lyric, King Street, Haymarket, WG1 071-741 2222. Tues-Sun, 7.30pm. Mats Wed, Sat 2.30pm.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM: Another set in the life of Adrian Noble's thriving trilogy, first seen last year at Stratford. With Linda Marlowe.

THE OEDIPUS PLAYS: Gwendoline Yeo's little tale of Oedipus' family. The King of Corinth, Oedipus' son, and the Sphinx.

King's Head, Swan Lane, SE1 071-229 0757.

THE POWER OF ONE: Orphaned white South African child develops a social conscience. Jumbled epic, coarsely handled by director John G. Avilés. With Hugh Quarshie, Trevor Fenton, Armin Mueller-Stahl. Empire 071-930 5647. MGM/Filmhouse Road 071-370 2533.

STRAIGHT OUT OF BROOKLYN: Violence and despair in a Brooklyn housing block. Awkward first feature from an enterprising 19-year-old, writer-director Martin Rich.

Rich (071-435 5402).

WHAT'S HOT: The film block-marketeers and a small-town cop chase each other's tails in New Mexico. An

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Heather Alston

The play is set in the gymnasium of a mental home where eight drably garbed patients undergoing therapy act out their fears in the pre-Colombian mask.

Tramway, Albert Drive, Glasgow (041-227 5511). Tonight, tomorrow, Thurs, 8pm.

YAN TAN TETHERA: The production of Harrison Birtwistle's pastoral fable is being part of Open Air's tenth anniversary season of open-air performances.

Geoffrey Dolton plays Alan, the good shepherd, and Manni, Alan's wife. Hannah Gadsby plays Hall, South Bank, London SE1 071-938 9800. Tonight, Thurs, Fri, 8pm.

BRITISH YOUTH OPERA: New production of Carmen and Così fan tutte come to Sadler's Wells Theatre this week from Open Air.

The production of Carmen is directed by Patrick Lindsay and sung in French. Così fan tutte is directed by Jamie Hayes with Andrew Burden and Nathan Berg. Sadler's Wells, 100 Upper Ground, London EC1 031-218 8516. Carmen: tonight, Thurs, Sat, 7.30pm. Così fan tutte: tomorrow, Fri, 7.30pm.

RAND EXPLOSION: Concerts of three nights of music from 12 bands at the Electric Club. Tonight is Indie night with Pale and others, followed by dance and soul music with Nu Colours;

and Thursday rock music with Silverstein, 105 Charing Cross Road, London 071-437 6603. Tonight, tomorrow and Thurs from 7.30pm.

DON'T CALL ME MADAME: The season of solo chamber performances continues at the ICA. Tonight, Rachel Rosenthal, the grand doyenne of American performance art, asks what you would do if you received a fax from the future describing the world in 2010. With Carolyn Christov, Cristina Castillo, drawing on her Latin American roots, uses the consciousness of loss and death to celebrate life (performance in Spanish).

ICA, The Mall, London SW1 071-920 0493. Tonight, tomorrow, Thurs, 8pm.

SESTERS: A new play by Australian playwright David Williamson, which is part of a season of plays, seminars and discussions on the theme "Women in Danger". This play is about two sisters who meet after a 20 year separation.

Sydney Herne Bay, 100 Herne Bay Road, London SE1 031-218 8516. Carmen: tonight, Thurs, Sat, 7.30pm. Così fan tutte: tomorrow, Fri, 7.30pm.

SYNTHETIC: Synthetics from 12 bands at the Electric Club. Tonight is Indie night with Pale and others, followed by dance and soul music with Nu Colours;

and Thursday rock music with Silverstein, 105 Charing Cross Road, London 071-437 6603. Tonight, tomorrow, Thurs, 8pm.

GEORG BASELITZ - PRINTS 1964-92: This survey of the German artist's graphic work takes us from his earliest stages of flat, bold prints to his more complex, layered prints with penitentiaries and lattices, his serial works, endlessly examining a single motif.

Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 071-821 1313. Mon-Sat, 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2.50pm, until Nov 1.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

House full, returns only

Some seats available

Seats at all prices

and Edward Peckridge as the suddenly benign water-warden.

Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 071-58085. Preview-Mon, Sat, 8pm.

WHEN LAUGHING: Michael Morpurgo's new play, which finds in crisis over their wives. Admired as the Exchange, Manchester, earlier this year.

Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 071-732 2240. Opens 7.30pm, Thurs, Sat, 8pm.

WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE: Philip Pullman's tragi-comic RSC production. John Carle as a callous aristocrat in Wilde's social melodrama

Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 071-9800. Carmen: 7.30pm, mats Wed, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, Sun, 5.30pm.

THE RISE AND FALL OF LITTLE VOICE: Terrific performance by Alison Steadman as the raucous siren in Ann Cartwright's play about dreams, shyness and horrible mothers.

Nottingham Playhouse, South Bank, SE1 071-828 2252. Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mats tomorrow 2.30pm, 150 mins.

SIX DEGREES OF SEPARATION: Stockard Channing as the rich New Yorker transfigured as a black con artist in John Patrick Shanley's play on love and dependence.

Comedy, Pantomime Street, SW1 071-828 1045. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 8.15pm, Sun, 4pm.

SOMEONE WHOLLY WATCH OVER ME: Excellent playing by Alec McCowen, Hugh Quarshie and Stephen Rea as Rebus' friends in Frank McGuinness' new play, now at the Vaudeville.

Vaudeville, The Strand, WC2 071-836 9987. Opens tonight, 8pm, tomorrow and Thurs, 8pm, then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 8.15pm, Sun, 4pm.

WASHTIME'S DAY: Romantic musical comedy based on Never You Forget by Benny Green and Denis King. First seen at Chichester and still

ticket information supplied by SWET.

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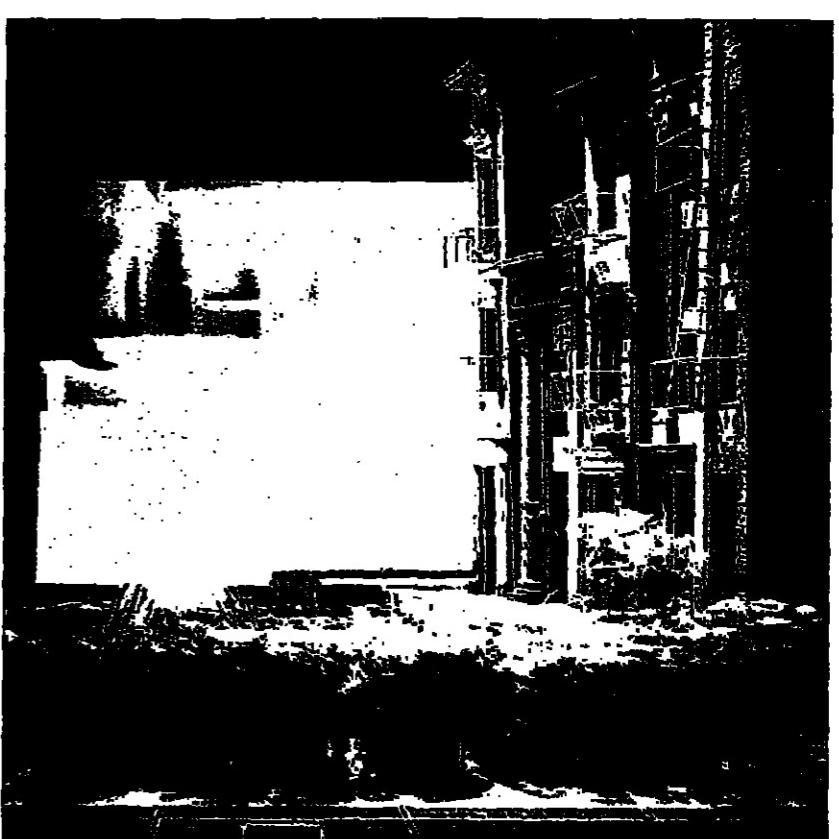
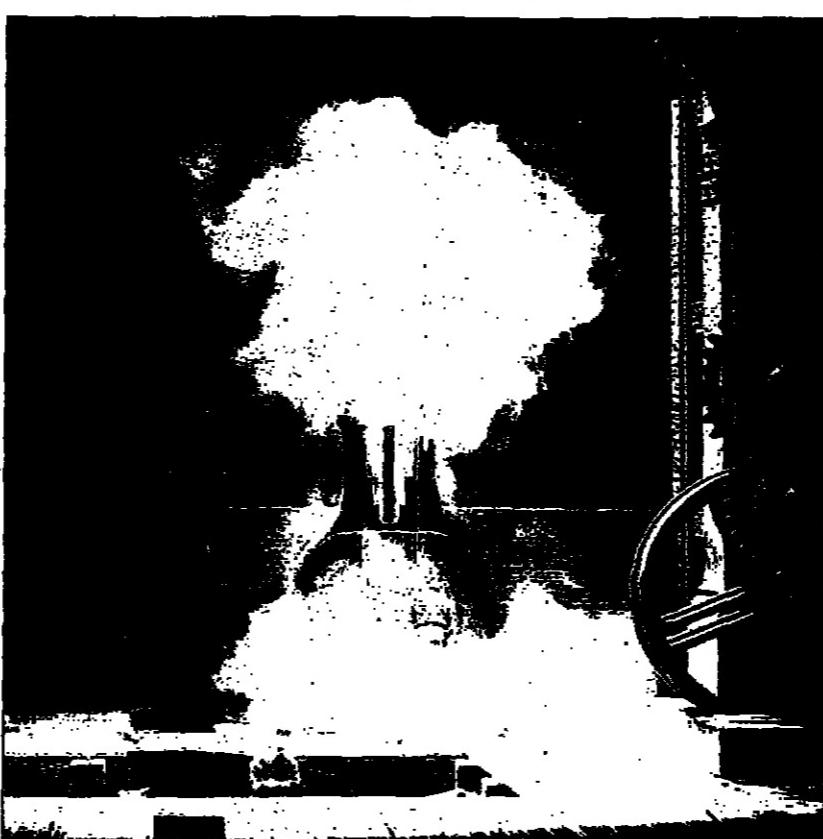
with Edward Peckridge as the suddenly benign water-warden.

Opera: Wagner is out on video, and Barry Millington finds that the 18 cassettes capture some of Bayreuth's most controversial productions

The gods become cogs in the machine



Demythologising in progress: scenes from *Das Rheingold* (left), *Siegfried* Act I (centre) and *Götterdämmerung*, in the 1976, centenary Ring cycle productions by Patrice Chéreau at the Bayreuth Festival, now available on video



Bayreuth is rarely a tranquil place, but this summer the rumours and manoeuvres have been particularly entertaining. The German press has been humming with speculation about the future of the festival begun by Richard Wagner in 1876. Is Wolfgang Wagner, the composer's grandson, finally to retire? Will the succession pass, for the first time ever, outside the Wagner dynasty? Is the temple to be descended by the performance of other composers' music — perhaps even by Wagner's Jewish *bête noire* Meyerbeer?

Like *The Ring* itself, the drama will unfold at length and with many cunning twists. In the meantime, ardent Wagnerites with upwards of £300 to spend can unwind with the massive "Richard Wagner Edition": a boxed set of 18 Bayreuth Festival videos (regrettably not subtitled) just released by Philips.

This is an encyclopaedic survey of productions mounted from 1972 to 1981, or from Götz Friedrich's *Tannhäuser* to Jean-Pierre Ponnelle's *Tristan* and *Isolde*. It takes in Wolfgang Wagner's own *Parsifal* (1975) and *Meistersinger* (1981). Friedrich's *Lohengrin* (1979), Harry Kupfer's *Der fliegende Holländer* (1978) and, as the centrepiece, Patrice Chéreau's centenary production of *The Ring* itself.

The latter is naturally the star of this monumental show. At Bayreuth it held the stage from 1976 to 1980, but it subsequently reached a far larger audience when Brian Large's excellent video, recorded in 1980, was televised to great acclaim in Britain and elsewhere. The production was undoubtedly the most controversial single project in the history of an institution that is no stranger to controversy. What so upset the traditionalists was not only Chéreau's determination to confront head-on the ideology lying behind Wagner's great tetralogy. He also seemed to be challenging the whole concept and history of Bayreuth itself.

His demythologising of Wotan and the other gods brought them down from the clouds to the real world of human beings. Some protested that this anti-heroic stance ran counter to the music. Wagner gave the gods. But this objection overlooked the fact that the gods' nobility is

but a facade concealing their corruption and decadence. Wagner's music may suggest sublimity, but the actual events it depicts are far from sublime.

Chéreau set his production in an industrialised society such as Wagner himself lived in. A hydro-electric dam took the place of the free-flowing Rhine, and a Victorian drawing-room provided the setting for Wotan's domestic confrontations in *Die Walküre*, instead of the rocky mountain. Occasional 20th-century costumes and props suggested a continuity between Wagner's time and ours.

Scene after scene was recreated in a series of unforgettable images: the full-length mirror into which Wotan gazed during his soul-searching monologue; the

embracing of his son Siegmund, after allowing him to be impaled on Hunding's spear; Brünnhilde being dragged by Gunther into the Gibichung Hall like a wounded bird. All this is captured superbly in Large's video, as is the depth of the love scenes.

Gwyneth Jones as Brünnhilde was at the peak of her powers. Indeed, one of Chéreau's greatest achievements was to overturn at a stroke the stodgy tradition of "operatic acting" in favour of stirring music-theatre. Subsequent directors have built on Chéreau's innovations but none has surpassed him in this sphere, not even Harry Kupfer, whose equally contentious *Ring* was at Bayreuth for the last time this season.

Kupfer, however, first came to international attention in 1978 with a *Flegende Holländer* that was psychologically convincing and electrifying. Modern audiences find it difficult to sympathise with the young woman who falls obsessively in love with a man she has never seen, finally

committing suicide because he needs redemption. In Kupfer's production, Senta, torn schizophrenically between fantasy and reality, becomes the focus.

The entire first act takes place in her imagination, and in the second she conjures up her own fantasy Flying Dutchman, a romantically dark-skinned hero (played by Simon Estes). The face of the stranger brought in by her father remains in shadow; Senta communicates only with her own Dutchman. At the end, she welcomes death as the only release from her mental torture: she leaps from a room in her father's house. And out of the window with her go all the old notions of sacrifice and redemption.

The fantasised action — appropriate given the internalised nature of Wagner's dramas — was not a new idea. Ponnelle's *Tristan* and *Isolde* (René Kollo and Johanna Meier in the title roles, Barbiom conducting) tackled some of the work's fundamental problems: its call for self-annihilation, the link between love and egotism, the nature of "redemption". Understanding that *Tristan* was not the work of a man ecstatically in love, as Wagner himself admitted, but of one deeply frustrated and insecure, Ponnelle suggested that its composition was the result of pressing psychological necessity. Thus the whole of the final catastrophe became a projection of *Tristan's* life: death and *Isolde's* transfiguration take place only in his imagination.

Wolfgang Wagner's own more conservative brand of direction is exemplified by his *Meistersinger* and his semi-naturalistic dramatically inert *Parsifal* (Friedrich's 1982 production better deserved preservation). The chorus and orchestral work throughout the set are up to Bayreuth's impeccable standards; the soloists a fair sample of the best Wagner singers available at that time.

Those whose priority is sonic excellence, however, could invest in Philips's parallel set of 32 mid-price CDs, again retailing for just over £300. The same ten operas come on these discs, through several in different productions from the videos.

• Barry Millington edited the Wagner Compendium, recently published by Thames and Hudson (£25)

CINEMA: INTERVIEW

Cathy accentuates the positive

David Robinson meets Juliette Binoche, the star of the forthcoming *Les Amants du Pont Neuf* and a new *Wuthering Heights*



Les Amants: Juliette Binoche and Denis Lavant

Was it for art or love that Juliette Binoche so resolutely disguised her classic beauty for *Les Amants du Pont Neuf*? Playing a painter who is losing her sight and has taken to the streets, she appears grubby and disfigured with an eyepatch, spots and blackened teeth. A labour of love indeed, for the film (in London from Friday) was made during her four-year partnership, off-screen and on, with its director, Lars Carax.

"We lived together; that's why the film is so special," the 28-year-old French actress observes. "When he began writing we had separated; but then we came back together again. We would talk a lot. I would suggest ideas, and many of them got into the film."

"And while he was writing I was painting him a lot. That's why he's made me a painter in the film. All the paintings you see in the film are mine. I'm planning an exhibition next year. I paint portraits. I'm not interested in abstract. I'm a very concrete person."

Binoche's street grime in *Les Amants* contrasts strongly with the first film she made with Carax: *Mauvais Sang*

(English title, *The Night is Young*). That emphasised Binoche's beauty — a beauty that resembles the legendary diva of the silent screen, Louise Brooks. (Significantly, Carax acknowledges silent films as a dominant influence.)

The Binoche beauty will soon be fully visible again. In *Wuthering Heights*, which opens in London next month after a mixed reception at the Edinburgh Film Festival, she plays the dual role of Cathy and Cathy's daughter. In Louis Malle's forthcoming *Damage*, adapted by David Hare from the novel by Josephine Hart, she plays a continental femme fatale who misleads an English MP (Jeremy Irons), the father of his generation. He has the eyes of a child; he likes extremes.

"Sometimes I think he wanted to provoke or hurt me. He initially wanted my character to die at the end of the film. I got cross with him about that. We separated for about two weeks because I didn't agree. She had to stay alive."

Binoche used the delays on the film to practise English in preparation for *Wuthering Heights* — though inevitably this Gallic-accented Cathy caused a few sniggers among the critics at Edinburgh. "I refused the role at first because I felt it should be an English actress; but then I thought I could not avoid it. We are in the EC. It is good to have an international language. The English must understand that their language is international, and be proud."

"I love to act in English. A lot of the lines in *Wuthering Heights* come straight from Broons and it was difficult to make them alive. I don't try to give Cathy a regional accent. Just standard English. I think some of my sounds are still a bit strange, though."

She is currently preparing a film with Krzysztof Kieslowski, the director of *Dekalog*. "This time he's making a triptych, called *Liberty, Equality and Fraternity*; three films to be shot in Paris, Poland and Switzerland. We are working in English, because Kieslowski doesn't speak French. So after working in French on an English-language film, *Damage*, I'm working in English on a French-language film."

• *Les Amants du Pont Neuf* opens at the Lumière, St Martin's Lane on Friday. *Wuthering Heights* opens at the Empire Leicester Square on October 16.

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TELEVISION REVIEW

Too many plums in this pudding

The story of evolution is every bit as fantastic as that of the Creation. While *Genesis* navigates its way to man in a few smooth verses, natural selection offers a confused and bumpy ride, with a lot of wrong turnings and dead ends.

Television natural history programmes have tended to ignore this, taking the world as it is a finished artefact to be described and admired. Change, without which the full glorious variation of fur and feather would never have evolved, is usually seen as a threat. Man is invariably the villain.

The *Velvet Claw*, which began a seven-week run on BBC 1 last night offers at least a refreshingly different perspective. A series about the evolution of the carnivores, it does not pretend that the world was always as we see it

today, or that change invariably means deterioration. Using computer animation to bring the fossil record to life, it traces the rise of a class of creatures, now 246 species strong, that survive by killing and eating others.

The first programme in the series was, alas, a bit of a muddle. Jumping swiftly from long-extinct carnivores to their modern equivalents and back again, it left me confused. There are a limited number of new names any viewer can be expected to absorb in half an hour, and this film exceeded it by a generous margin.

Without captions or talking heads, it tried to convey a complex argument through film, animation and commentary, narrated by Derek Jacobi. As he spoke of *cordylids* and *cimolestes*, of *crocodiles* and *miacids*, I found myself begging to know how these

names were spelt. A family tree would have helped, but that, I suppose, is far too old-fashioned an idea.

The Carnivore Connection — a meaningless title, to most

— was a bit like a Russian novel without the helpful cast-list at the front. There were simply too many ideas, too many characters who swam into view only to disappear down the cul-de-sac of evolution. After a bit, the temptation was to sit back and enjoy the animations without trying to follow the villain.

Further programmes in the series promise detailed examination of different groups of carnivores, from the great cats to the tiny but brutal weasels, stoats and martens. A sneak preview of next week's film, on otters, suggests that the technique will work better on a smaller canvas: there are some shots of cats hunting which will make kitty never seem quite the same again.

NIGEL HAWKES

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The world remains silent over reports of violations of women in the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Barbara Hewson wonders why

FIFTEEN-year-old Edina said that on July 30 she was taken by armed men from the school where she and other Muslim women were being held to the local Serbian commander's headquarters. "He asked me questions about where Bosnian units were in the town and wanted to know if I would take a Serbian name... Then he took me to a stair and raped me... He said I was only for him and he wouldn't let another man touch me." Edina was gang-raped on two other nights, once by three Serbs whom she knew.

Her 17-year-old sister, Elvira, was gang-raped three times, twice on the floor of the school and once in a flat by five Serbs: "They took me inside and told me to take off my clothes. When I said no, they beat me." She was taken to a bedroom where men queued to rape her. "I knew three of them very well... They were my friends before the war. We spent time together in the cafe."

These accounts were carried in the British press on August 10. One hundred Muslim women and girls were rounded-up and held at a school in Rogatica, Bosnia-Herzegovina, during "ethnic cleansing" by Serbs. The women were repeatedly gang-raped. Many assailants were former friends and neighbours. In recent weeks reports from the former Yugoslavia have described similar atrocities against women civilians by soldiers from various ethnic backgrounds.

An ITN news crew filmed another women refugee, who told a reporter how she and other women had been detained in a cellar for four months by Serbian troops and repeatedly gang-raped. The woman's friend, Sandra, aged 19, who had tried to resist, was shot.

Reports on August 10 described how "dozens" of Serbian women were subjected to a two-month reign of terror by Croatians who had joined the local militia in Novigrad, where the Croatian army tried to cut across the Serbian corridor early in the war. Ljubica said she stayed with a group of other women for protection after being interrogated. Neighbours then accused them of hiding Chetniks (Serbian irregulars).

The next night she and three other women were taken to a house where 15 men in battle fatigues abused them: "They said, 'We want to see you naked.' They told us that the Chetniks had raped 150 women and now they were going to do the same to us. Seven men raped us, one after the other — we were abused for five hours. They were all neighbours of mine..."

Another, Gordana, was taken to a house and gang-raped by drunken irregulars: "They tried to make me yell that I was having a good time. When I screamed, one of them smashed my head against the floor. It all lasted three hours. Afterwards they said I would have an Ustashi (Croatian fascist) child."

Accounts such as these have not attracted the same international outcry as the camps where men are held. The camps, with their echoes of the Holocaust, led to high-level accusations of "human rights violations". But politicians and human rights observers are strangely silent on the abuse of women's rights. Possibly male politicians believe



It could happen here: the knowledge that rape has always been a feature of warfare does nothing to assuage the anxieties of women as they huddle in basements in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia-Herzegovina

Rape is a war crime too

that war is a tacit licence to rape. Such official silence illustrates what Susan Brownmiller's history of rape, *Against Our Will*, called "the standard censoring mechanism that men employ when dealing with the rape of women".

War crimes include breaches of the rules of war. They are international torts, giving rise to a duty of reparation. They give "belligerent states" an extraordinary jurisdiction over members of enemy forces in their hands who are charged with war crimes. They can be tried by an international tribunal. Breaches of rules of war can also lead to court martial.

Not until the fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 did modern rules of war expressly forbid the sexual abuse of women civilians. This provides that women shall be protected "in particular" against "rape, enforced prostitution, or any form of indecent assault" (paragraph 2, Article 27). Previously, the Hague Regulations of 1899 and 1907 referred only to "family rights and honour" (Article 46), which says little for women's status at the turn of the century.

The Serbian commander viewed the child he raped as booty ("He said I was only for him and that he wouldn't let another man touch me"). The militia who gang-raped Serbian women were similarly proprietorial ("they said I would

have an Ustashi child"). Such attitudes go back to pre-history, when rape of women in war was regarded as inevitable, even natural. "Women are the grass that gets trampled when elephants fight," an ancient Eastern proverb says. For men, rape was the conqueror's privilege, not a crime. Homer's *Iliad* refers to Greeks enslaving captured women and distributing them to soldiers as spoils of war.

The Book of Judges xxi, 1-13 (Revised English Bible) tells how the Benjamites, defeated by the Israelites, faced a crisis when the Israelites refused to allow them to marry Israeli daughters. The Israelites agonized — "This day one whole tribe has been lopped off Israel" — then suggested an alternative supply: "Is there anyone in the tribes of Israel who did not go up to the Lord at Mizpah?"

The tribe of Jabesh-gilead, having failed to go up, was selected for

what might today be called ethnic cleansing. Orders were given to "...put to death every male person, and every woman who has had intercourse with a man, but spare any who are virgins". After the ensuing massacre, Jabesh-gilead virgins were seized as brides for the Benjamites, and "peace was proclaimed".

St. Augustine speculated how the rape of the Sabine women might be justified under rules of war. In 1385, an enlightened Richard II promulgated 24 Articles of War. One decreed that "none be so hardy as to... force any woman, on pain of being hanged".

The 17th-century Dutch jurist Hugo Grotius stated that rape was prohibited by more civilised nations.

Rape in war, says Ms Brownmiller, is "a familiar act with a familiar

excuse". Calculated to terrorise, degrade and mutilate, it is a prize every soldier can win. In terms of the rules of war, it is, however, indefensible.

The second world war, Bangladesh, Vietnam all saw savage and sustained abuse of women by soldiers on a huge scale. There were countless mass rapes as well as forced prostitution in concentration camps or military brothels. At the tribunal at Nuremberg, male prosecutors shrank from going into the details: in Tokyo, no rape victims were called to testify, though evidence came from other sources.

Aggressors rarely own up. In January 1992, elderly women in Seoul protested at the Japanese government's refusal to make reparation for Japan's treatment of 100,000 Korean "comfort women".

Japan denied for decades that its soldiers were involved, claiming the

military brothels were a private enterprise, but when incriminating documents were produced, Kiichi Miyazawa, the Japanese prime minister, finally came clean. "It is undeniable that the Imperial Army was involved in the recruitment of these women and the management of these facilities." His phraseology belied the violations involved. Survivors told a familiar tale of gang-rapes, beatings, and executions of women who resisted.

Ironically, having passed the War Crimes Act 1991, and with more and more evidence of war crimes in the former Yugoslavia, the British government shows little enthusiasm for bringing contemporary war criminals to justice.

The London peace conference did not mention the violation of women's rights by the military, let alone separation. Rapes are ritually denied by official Serb, Croat and Muslim spokesmen. Women, it seems, are peripheral: rape is so much propaganda.

But rape of civilian women in war might contravene the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide. This forbids causing serious bodily harm or mental harm to members of a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, with intent to destroy the group in whole or in part [Article II(b)].

Article III prohibits attempted

genocide, complicity in, and incitement and conspiracy to commit genocide. "Persons committing genocide shall be punished, whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials, or private individuals" (Article IV).

For centuries war entailed killing men but raping the surviving women. The "surviving tribe" thereby perpetuated itself and extinguished the defeated ones. Events in Bosnia, where men are starved and murdered in camps, and women rounded-up and gang-raped, echo this. "They said I would have an Ustashi child." Mass rape of this kind is genocidal in nature and warrants serious investigation.

A report by Sir John Thompson on human rights abuses in Bosnia-Herzegovina is due from the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

I earnestly hope it will recognise the illegal detention and gang-rapes of women for the serious war crimes they are. The legal and political significance of such crimes against women can no longer be ignored. Nor should victims have to wait 50 years for their suffering to be officially recognised and compensated by those responsible.

The author is a practising barrister.

Storms fail to halt the party in hell

Hurricane Andrew hardly dented the hedonism of Miami Beach

IF EVER there was a place that needed to be reminded of the harsh reality of life beyond the hedonistic pleasures of partying until dawn and indulging simultaneously in the seven deadly sins, Miami Beach, Florida, was it.

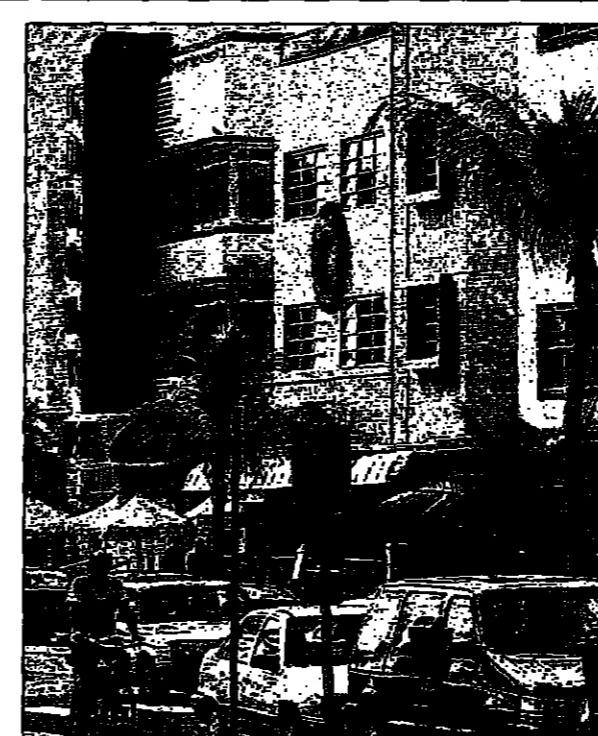
Miraculously, however, America's Soho by the sea survived intact, almost without a scratch, when Hurricane Andrew hit south Florida two weeks ago. You would never have believed it during the hours that preceded the arrival of Andrew just two weeks ago.

The city of Miami Beach was evacuated until it resembled a ghost town. The few who toughed it out — the "come hell or high water" brigade — survived to regret their bravado.

"The stupidest thing I've ever done," says Jack

Donahue, a reformed drug trafficker turned catholic evangelical and modelling agency scout on fashionable Ocean Drive in the Art Deco district. "I wanted to live the experience, to feel the euphoria of danger," he says. The windows shook "like they were possessed". He went to the roof for a better view. "There were coconuts flying down the street like they'd been shot out of a cannon. The tops of the palm trees were bent to the ground like they were made of rubber. I felt its evilness. It was like my own personal look into hell, like being surrounded by demons," he says.

Over the sounds of construction and a radio playing "Born To Be Wild", a US military helicopter flies past heading down the beach with a sling-load of food supplies for the homeless down south



Under Satan's wing? The fashionable Art Deco district of Miami Beach survived hurricane winds of 160 mph



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BRITISH DIABETIC ASSOCIATION

— a reminder of the tragedy that is easy to forget in party land. Especially here in Hell.

But Gosney says his hell is for the suffering folks of south Miami too. "I know a lot of people have lived through hell. This is a monument to the people who really survived and deserve some fun."

He aims for a devilish but gleeful effect. "The kind of hell I'm going for is the kind Bugs Bunny would go to in a cartoon," he says. "Cheeky without being obscene. It's an area I specialise in."

A quick tour of the club shows what he means. Upstairs each room tackles one of the dead-sins. On the walls of one room a semi-naked woman is being chased by midges in Batman costumes.

There is a healthy amount of soft red velvet furnishings and spot-beam laser lighting to give the desired effect. City officials argued against

reclining nudes (muscular men on gay nights and women on straight nights) are the object of envy in another room, and then there is the devil's living room. A Victorian-style family portrait of the devil with his wife and children hangs over the fireplace. There are pictures of relatives and some snapshots of the devil on holiday in hell.

Meanwhile fellow club owners have been at war with the local City Hall over a night-time curfew imposed after Andrew hit. For several days "Silly Hall", as beach wits refer to it, resisted cries that the curfew was unnecessarily hurting tourism and night-life.

On Saturday, the gay community turned out in force for the "Red Hot End of Summer Beach Ball", featuring "dunk the hunk", the most outrageous bathing suit contest and erotic banana eating.

Organised by gay outfit, the ball raised money for the fight against AIDS.

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Organised by gay outfit, the ball raised money for the fight against AIDS.

The hurricane came and left but unfortunately AIDS is still here," says Alberto Jilbe,

vice-president of Body Positive, an AIDS support group.

Many Miami Beach businessmen, straight and gay, participated in the relief effort for their fellow Floridians.

Gloria Estefan, singer and owner of the Art Deco Caribe Hotel, set up her own relief supply network with her husband, Emilio. They are also organising a hurricane relief concert in Miami on September 26, starring Robin Williams and Whoopi Goldberg, which is expected to raise millions.

Miami Beach tourism officers have launched an international advertising campaign to reassure foreign visitors.

"Hurricane Andrew was an unwelcome guest, but the rest of the world's visitors are not," Mayo Villafana of the Miami Visitors Bureau says.

DAVID ADAMS

Hurrah for the aliens

Everyone I know who wants one has got one by now. Most families organise a September start; some have received and sent theirs back already — or almost had them deported. Due to an administrative hitch, ours doesn't arrive until next week. I am talking about au pairs.

The recent row over why an au pair must by law be a girl has stirred up cardboards of controversy about discrimination on the one hand and exploitation on the other. Having used every form of child care known to man or mother, I write in defence of the au pair system.

To invite a virtual stranger into your home and entrust him or her with grilling fish fingers and supervising homework for your nearest and dearest may appear extraordinary. But it can and does work, though the early stages of courtship and rituals of introduction seem bizarre to those who have not experienced it.

Once you have registered your particulars with an agency and it has banked your cheque, the process begins. You may select from a shortlist or be allocated an individual — non-smoking, pet-loving, with siblings — fulfilling your expressed preferences.

Then comes the exchange of letters. She writes to you, enclosing a small, blurry snapshot of herself taken in a railway station booth: 'I am 20 years old. I study English and I envision to work in a career to speak it like children and I enjoy to look after her or him. I wish to improve my conversation and learn the British way of life and customs. I look forward to meet your family and I hope we shall have fun together.'

To be fair, the au pair's impression of us will be just as hazy. I write a lengthy episode describing the family and its lifestyle in glowing terms as I can morally muster. And the children each send a note of welcome. This year my daughter wrote: 'I am seven and became a vegetarian last week. My daddy eats liquorice allsorts. My mummy likes marzipan and French lager. We have two cats and a stick insect.' My son only wanted to know if she possessed any computer games she could bring. So much for the British way of life and its customs.

Previously we have not used an agency, but appointed through personal recommendation. Our family has been recommended by the outgoing au pair to a



DAVINA LLOYD
'We have eaten foreign fare and the children have acquired rude words in several languages'

the cupboard containing a jar of Swedish cloudberry preserve which no one can eat. We have celebrated alien festivals, eaten foreign fare, and the children have acquired greetings and rude words in several languages.

Perhaps the current furor will establish better controls and kinder practice. At least the business of registration may be improved. A few years ago, part of the ritual was to have each one registered with the police within seven days of arrival. For us that meant going to the Aliens Registration Office, conjuring up visions of little green men. Now you are instructed to appear in person at Limar House, Wellesley Road, Croydon.

After strange suppers of pickled mackerel and shepherd's pie with hard-boiled eggs, the children look forward to French provincial fish fingers with interest. And I shall brush up on celebratory customs for Bastille Day. When our alien arrives from France next week, I, for one, will be over the moon.

National barriers are disappearing over Europe, but national stereotypes may take longer.

Jérôme Burne
looks at a survey of children's attitudes

As we edge crabwise into Europe, it is obvious that centuries of historical jingoism are not going to be wished away with a few soothing words about a single market. It is not only retired colonels and the Sun who believe wogs begin at Calais, after all.

But what of our children? Are they going to be true Europeans, making no more distinction between a Spaniard and a Dane than between someone from Norfolk or Cornwall, or will they still be depicting the French as onion sellers and the Germans as Gestapo agents in the year 2000?

In the first study of English children's attitudes to European nations for nearly 20 years (due to be published shortly in the *British Journal of Developmental Psychology*), a fascinating picture emerges of how children between five and ten view their fellow Europeans — specifically the French, Germans, Spaniards and Italians.

The author of the study, Martyn Barrett, senior lecturer in psychology at Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, questioned 216 children from primary schools in Buckinghamshire.

The Spaniards — sunburned, happy, clean, poor and lazy — emerge as the favourites, closely followed by the French — sunburned, rich, clean, clever and hardworking. Trailing way behind the Italians come the Germans who are still the villains of Europe — white, rich, clean, hardworking and aggressive.

The most encouraging finding is that the children become less prejudiced as they grow older and better informed. Not surprisingly five to seven-year-olds are "don't knows" on many of the questions but that does not stop them having definite opinions: the Spanish and Italians are not clever, and they dislike both the Germans and Italians "a little". Most tellingly, the French, whom they like most, are the ones they know most about, while least favourite Germans are the ones they know least about.

Eight to ten-year-olds, on the other hand, are more knowledgeable and generous-spirited, although that doesn't stop them being illogical — they regard the Germans as rich but scruffy and the Italians as poor but smart. However, they still think Germans are aggressive and Spaniards are lazy.

It is worth noting that the process works both ways. According to Dr Barrett our affection for Spaniards is far from being mutual: "They view us much like we see Germans — white-skinned, blond, blue-eyed, clever, thin, hard-working, not



Viz vision: it is not only cartoon characters who develop prejudices about other nations at an early age — real children do too

Will they still see the French as onion sellers and the Germans as Gestapo agents in the year 2000?

Then there is an even trickier question: suppose some of the caricatures are true?

"I think that there are features about Spanish life," Dr Barrett says, "that are so different from ours that they can seem, for example, lazy, like the long afternoon break and much more late-night socialising. Similarly, if more people went on holiday to Germany they might have their ideas about German aggressiveness reinforced because there is a social style that is different from ours."

But do we not need caricatures?

A lot of comedy and drama would be impossible without them. After all, England created its own monetary union over 250 years ago and the English still characterise the Scots as dour, miserly and drunk, and the Welsh as silver-tongued and unreliable. Yet business is done, tourism flourishes and legislation is harmonised.

"I think a mild amount of stereotyping is inevitable," Dr Barrett says, "but it is ignorance that is worrying. It is important to have objective information about countries as well as idiosyncratic TV series like *Alla Alla*. My findings show that there is a lack of knowledge about Europeans among six and seven-year-olds. Also the dislike

of Germans is really vehement and quite shocking."

It seems from other studies that while attitudes change between six and ten, there is little change between ten and 14. In other words primary school age is a key time to affect children's ideas about foreigners.

But the experts do not know what it is that changes children's attitudes. It could be because they know more about countries from holidays, books or television, and children tend to like what they know about, or it could be that they just get warmer feelings towards people anyway. All the same, Dr Barrett suggests that more attention should be paid to Europe in the National Curriculum.

But there are problems with that. Where would it be fitted in? History seems likely to produce the opposite effect and geography already calls for comparisons to be made between an area of Europe and a developing country. Given the loud complaints that the curriculum does not focus enough on Britain as it is, a rise in obligatory European projects seems unlikely. Any further changes seem likely to be up to parents and individual teachers.

Dr Barrett also makes a half-hearted attempt to pin the "German Problem" on old war movies on television — 20 years ago war comics were the culprit. But the BBC claims that no more than ten of their 1,000 feature films last year were old war movies and the figures for ITV are unlikely to be dramatically different. The BBC then cites a string of children's programmes from *Blue Peter* upwards that have portrayed European countries in a positive and informative light.

Obviously attitudes are changing. As for Germans, apart from the war legacy, it could be simply that they are too much like us.

AND BRIEFLY

Teenage targets

TWO new magazines for teenage consumers are being launched this month: *Info*, by the Office of Fair Trading, a free, one-off venture; and *Check It Out*, by the Consumers' Association, which will come out 10 times a year and cost £5.95 a quarter. Both warn teenagers against running into debt and tell them how to resist a hard sell.

Burning issue

THIS month the Natural History Museum takes as its theme "the positive and negative relationships between humans and other animals". Every Saturday there will be videos and illustrated talks to tie in with exhibitions on the subject. Today at 2pm there will be another chance to see the video *Burn, Ivory, Burn*, which kicked off the season on Saturday. For details phone 071 938 9171.

Sleep on it

AN innovation that should be making its way into gift shops before Christmas is a *Tooth Fairy pillow*. It has a pocket for the tooth and the fairy's present, and can be ordered directly for £7.50, including postage, from Adoration, "Maie", 61A Scots Lane, Shordlands, Bromley, Kent BR2 0LT (081 658 2352). VICTORIA MCKEE

If a school feels good, go for it

Parents should take the classroom critics with a few pinches of salt

Who would not sympathise this week with parents delivering children to their first school? It is an alarming business, after nearly a decade of remorseless teacher-bashing in the press, and of constant tinkering by a government which has called for steady effort while getting through an average of one education minister every 15 months.

Nor has it been a constructive debate. The subtle and fascinating topic of early reading has become an issue of bigoted violence. Phonics buffs have savaged the Look-and-Say brigade, for all the world like Lilliputians arguing over whether to break eggs at the big end or the little end.

If you are timid, putting a child into the state system today feels like packing it off to the trenches. You find yourself scanning the papers for the war news: how many illiterate this week? Is GCSE toppling today, or teacher training?

But parents, take heart. Our two children have gone through their first five years during the heat of that battle, attending a smallish state First School. They learnt plenty, but what we learnt was equally interesting: the utter irrelevance of the debate, compared to the reality.

We took the first child to an open-plan room ("Trendy, discredited theory!" thundered the new traditionalists) where he sat round a friendly little table and learned to read and number and measure with bricks. The teachers were kind, humorous and dedicated. The government began its reforms meanwhile, making it clear that modern teachers were



SALLY & RICHARD GREENHILL
Getting to the point: enthusiasm in the classroom could be a more reliable test of a good school than its results

writing fluently in English, also Red Indian sign language, and a few hieroglyphs for fun. Meanwhile the Prince of Wales moaned — in not particularly graceful language — about the decline of English in schools, and the story broke that a middle-aged graduate, Annis Garfield, had been so incensed at being turned down for teacher training that she re-applied in bad spelling as an Afro-Caribbean called Sharon Shirl and got an interview. The tabloid conclusion was that teachers were villains and only a return to the Radiant Way could save

the nation. Our son, nearing the end of his four years, took a test for a selective academic prep school and found it "peasy".

John Major delivered a potty conference attack on trendy teachers "who have had their say — and had their day!". Our staffroom, by then, was too bored even to react. And so it goes on. Of course there are some bad schools, but still generalisations and blanket scares should not spoil the reality of the many which hum happily along. The most recent shock-horror has at last done us a favour. The news of

"I don't propose to vary such a good habit in the next few decades."

MICHAEL FOOT

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A warning from paradise lost

Barren Easter Island appears once to have been a land of plenty. So what went wrong? Norman Hammond reports

An entirely new picture of Easter Island in prehistoric times is emerging from recent botanical research: the sparsely grassed volcanic peaks seen by European travellers over the past two centuries were once covered in verdant palm forest, and the bare living eel out by the islanders had once been the plenty of an earthly paradise.

That Easter Island could be as fertile as the rest of Polynesia was the considered view of Jakob Roggeveen, the Dutch mariner whose landfall on April 5, 1722, marks the official "discovery" of the world's most remote inhabited place. Why it was not suggested by pollen studies carried out by Professor John Flenley, of Massey University in New Zealand, and by an assessment of the archaeological evidence by Dr Paul Bahn.

Easter Island was first settled around AD 400 by Polynesians sailing east from the Marquesas Islands: they were the descendants of voyagers who had spread rapidly across the Pacific atolls from 2000 BC onwards, bringing with them pigs, dogs, chickens, edible rats, tubers and fruits.

Their physical type, language and material culture all prove the Easter Islanders to be the easternmost Polynesians: the explorer Thor Heyerdahl's thesis that they came from South America, although highly publicised by his Kon-Tiki voyage in 1947, is confuted by the scientific data.

The real mystery of Easter Island for scholars has been not the origins of its people, but how the complex society indicated by the hundreds of *ahu* masonry platforms and their *moai* stone heads could have emerged and flourished in the treeless and almost resourceless environment.

Professor Flenley's work has yielded some provocative answers. When he first saw the island in 1977, while writing a book on rain forests, it struck him as an ideal locale for palynology, the study of pollen. The crater of Rano Raraku, one of several extinct volcanoes that dominate the terrain, would have acted as a pollen trap.

The swamp that had developed in the crater had preserved several yards of waterlogged deposits: the larger crater of Rano Kau had nearly 37 feet. The changing frequencies of pollen from palms, shrubs and grasses showed a deforestation of the landscape as dramatic as anything in the Amazon region or Vietnam in recent decades.

Palm trees, identified as similar to the Chilean wine palm, *Jubaea chilensis*, suddenly vanished after about AD 1000, to be replaced by grasses. Caches of fossil palm nuts nibbled by rodents suggested that the edible rats brought in by the islanders had depleted the seed stock needed to renew the forest after it had been cleared for cultivation.

"The pollen diagram from Rano



Change of scenery: Thor Heyerdahl on the grassy slopes of Easter Island in 1986. Centuries ago, this may have been rain forest

Kau is truly dramatic, one of the most striking records of forest destruction anywhere in the world," Professor Flenley and Dr Bahn say in a new book, *Easter Island, Earth Island*. "The forest pollen reaches its lowest values around AD 1400, before the collapse of the island's civilisation about 1680." Other areas besides Rano Kau probably remained for-

ested after 1400, they say, but soil erosion is apparent and the loss of fertile forest soils must have led to food shortages and less surface water.

One result was that population, estimated to have reached 6,000 to 8,000 at its maximum, had dropped to about 2,000 when Roggeveen arrived. Professor Flenley and Dr Bahn draw some

unpalatable parallels with the 1972 Club of Rome computer model for the future of the Earth, suggesting that population and pollution together, coupled with declining natural resources, could lead to a demographic crash like that on Easter Island.

"The timescale might be different," they say, but the "essential elements" of the Club of Rome's

model are present in the archaeological and palynological record. "The Easter Islanders no doubt believed their gods would provide a solution. We rely on our gods of science and technology; but the islanders came unstuck in a big way, and we could do the same."

• Easter Island, Earth Island, by Paul Bahn and John Flenley, Thames & Hudson, £15.95

rope broke and the Resurgam sank.

The Elfin suffered a similar fate. While seeking shelter at Moyston harbour, it was rammed and wrecked by another boat. No lives were lost in either incident.

Just as in 1880, the weather once again holds the key to the Resurgam's fate. "A fortnight of good calm weather is essential if she is to be successfully located," says Mr Biston. "If the weather is fine, we should find her."

"On a good day last year we came across four unknown wrecks in Cardigan Bay, and previous good weather has allowed us to salvage one of the Spanish Armada's galleons off the frost coast."

IOLA SMITH

UPDATE

When sex began

SEX began about 1.1 billion years ago, according to William Schopf, a palaeobiologist at the University of California. The first organisms that reproduced sexually were free-floating plankton in China, or possibly Siberia. Dr Schopf believes: Before that, organisms reproduced asexually. But sexual reproduction was an improvement, combining the traits of two parents and offering more resistance to changes in the atmosphere or weather.

"It turns out, therefore, that sex provides this variability, the varied offspring," he says. "Because of that, organisms were much better able to adapt to the changing environment."

Steamed up

SCIENTISTS have shown that the regular eruptions of a geyser at Calistoga, California, altered in frequency before three big earthquakes hit the area. Reporting in *Science*, Paul Silver and Nathalie Valette-Silver, a husband and wife team from the Carnegie Institution of Washington, show that two and a half days before the Loma Prieta earthquake struck San Francisco on October 18, 1989, the geyser's eruptions slowed. By the time the quake struck, it was erupting once every three hours, half its normal rate. Similar changes were observed before earthquakes in 1984 and 1975.

"There are too many false alarms for it to be a useful earthquake predictor," Dr Paul Silver says, "but the findings show that geological changes precede earthquakes, which researchers should be able to detect through other means."

Money smells

GAMBLERS risk more money when the right aroma wafts between the slot machines, a study in Las Vegas suggests. The Smell and Taste Treatment and Research Foundation in Chicago spent a weekend blowing two undisclosed scents between the gaming machines. One of them apparently increased the take by 45 per cent. The other scent had no effect.

"It is quite possible that, within the next few years, the use of odourants as a gambling incentive will be as common as neon lights in Las Vegas," Alan Hirsch, a neurologist who made the study, says. He would not divulge the exact nature of the odour that heightened the gambling urge.

Britain's first mechanically powered submarine, the Resurgam, sank in a howling gale off the north Wales coast in 1880. But it is hoped that next month she will live up to her Latin name and rise again: a salvage crew is going out to find her.

The team's leader, Richard Biston, a Gwynedd maritime engineer, recognises that finding the sunken vessel is "like locating a needle in a haystack. But providing the wreck is not totally covered in sand, we think that we can find her."

The 30-ton, cigar-shaped Resurgam lies about 20 miles of the Great Orme headland. Both Mr Biston and Bill Garrett, the designer's great-grandson, are determined that the best of 19th century maritime technology should be

More than 100 years after she sank, a salvage team is going after the Resurgam

Sub may rise from the depths

brought to the surface so that we know exactly how it worked.

They have invested £20,000 on sonar and other detection equipment — twice the amount that George Garrett, the Manchester curate, spent on designing and building the vessel in 1879.

Garrett was convinced that a ring of submarines would protect the British coastline from foreign invasion and, after studying navigation and the technology of the Russian navy, he started designing a sub-

marine. His idea was patented in 1873, and, after developing a 14ft prototype, he proceeded to design the 41ft Resurgam in 1879.

Built by the Cochran company of Birkenhead, the steam-powered submarine was launched into the Mersey on December 10, 1879. Water was heated in a coal-fired boiler to produce the steam. The fire was extinguished before the vessel submerged but stored heat continued to produce steam to power the engine.

The submarine could remain under water for as long as the steam and air supply would last, and it is reputed to have stayed under 30 hours on one occasion.

Both the British and Russian governments were interested in the vessel. The Admiralty offered Garrett £66,000 for it, while the tsar, digging deeper into his pocket, proposed £144,000.

But before handing over the money, the Admiralty wanted to see the Resurgam at work, and

Garrett was invited to take it down to Portsmouth. The builders wanted it to be transported by train, but Garrett was determined to travel by sea. He bought a small steam-powered boat, the Elfin, to tow the sub to Portsmouth.

Had he listened to the Cochran, perhaps the Resurgam would not be lying at the bottom of the sea today. After leaving Rhyl harbour on February 24, 1880, the boat and sub were caught in appalling weather. Two days later, the tow-

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Application forms to be returned by September 14th.

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Applications marked "Private and Confidential" should be sent to Peter Jones, General Director, English National Opera, London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4ES by 21 September.

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PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

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The post is based in Horsham, but, because of the considerable and irregular hours spent in London, it is likely to be of interest to candidates who live in the London area.

Salary will be in the region of £23,000, and a car is available on a contributory leasing arrangement. There are excellent pension and life assurance schemes.

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For an application form and further details please contact: The Civil Personnel Officer, Town Hall, Grove Road, Eastbourne BN21 4UG Tel: 0323 415006

Relocation assistance may be available. Interviews will be held on 4th-7th October Closing date 25th September

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Silver



Tony O'Reilly: \$75 million earnings

Can the baked bean king conquer the Mirror?

Andrew Lycett looks at the former Irish rugby star, Heinz executive and media magnate who is bidding for control of MGN

Despite his obvious charm, the man writing the *Daily Mirror* still has his detractors and they like to refer to a four-year-old puff which was published in his own Dublin newspaper, the *Sunday Independent*. With headlines like "A Man for all Continents", this eight-page supplement recorded the exploits of Ireland's greatest living export, Dr A.J.F. O'Reilly. Photographs showed the good doctor hobnobbing with Henry Kissinger, Margaret Thatcher and Robert Mugabe.

There, say the sceptics: for all his blarney, Mr O'Reilly is just another self-aggrandising proprietor — no fit guardian for Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN) which, until just under a year ago, suffered so badly at the hands of Robert Maxwell.

Such criticism only emphasises that Tony O'Reilly, the Irish rugby star who rose to be America's highest paid executive is a force to be reckoned with. For several weeks now, he has been sizing up MGN and, although the administrator holding 55 per cent of the group on behalf of Maxwell's creditors, the banks, shows no hurry to sell, Mr O'Reilly

remains the only serious alternative to a proposed management buy-out by a consortium with *Mirror* editor Richard Stott and Sir Peter Parker at its head.

Since paying 62p a share to purchase a 2 per cent stake in MGN after its listing on the stock exchange in mid-July, the normally loquacious Mr O'Reilly has said little except to confirm that he still has the company in his sights. When a mystery buyer purchased 1.5 million MGN shares last Friday, the City pointed to Mr O'Reilly, although his aides deny any recent stake-building.

Earnest of the Irishman's intent may emerge later today when he does his chairman's hat to address 2,500 stockholders at H.J. Heinz's annual general meeting in Pittsburgh. Still only 56, divorced from his first wife and with six children, he has been president, chief executive officer and, latterly, chairman

of the American food giant for two decades. After a period of restructuring, Heinz is once again performing well.

Mr O'Reilly will be able to justify his \$75 million earnings (in salary and share options) by reporting the company has increased its market share and is on target for a record year. Having achieved

certain age remembers him as a dashing wing three-quarter in Ireland's rugby team of the late 1950s. He translated his golden boy status into a senior marketing position at the Irish dairy board, where he virtually invented Kerrygold butter.

He moved on to head the Irish sugar board, was spotted by Heinz, hired as its UK managing director in 1969 and became chairman in 1987.

He is a print junkie: whenever he passes through an airport he buys all the newspapers on sale and reads methodically through them during his journey. He started modestly as a media entrepreneur, taking a mere £1 million stake in the Irish company, Independent Newspapers PLC, in 1973.

Within a year this previously down-at-heel Dublin company was expanding abroad, buying up the British recruitment magazines, *Miss London* and

Midweek. It moved into advertising in European weekly newspapers in Essex and local radio in the United States. Mr O'Reilly says his original stake in the group is now worth £175-100 million — "the best investment I ever made".

Aengus Fanning, editor of the *Sunday Independent*, says Mr O'Reilly is a non-interventionist owner: "I couldn't imagine a greater contrast to Maxwell. His only real rule is no support for the IRA. He is a liberal in the classic sense. He enjoys a wide variety of well-written comment and opinion. He demands performance and nearly always gets it."

The barbed comments still remain. Mr O'Reilly is indignant at any suggestion that he could not raise the £250 million or so required to buy the *Mirror*. But his advisers spell out a possible strategy: he buys, say, 20-30 per cent of MGN, giving himself a seat on the board. When the share price rises, he wins both ways: he can either bail out at a profit or bid for the whole company. As Mr O'Reilly himself says: "Anyone has the right to own a newspaper if they can mobilise the finance to do so."

Why Aunty must lift her veil

Obsessive secrecy at the BBC is costing the corporation its credibility, reports Melinda Wittstock

Sir John Harvey Jones, ICI's former chairman and BBC2's *Troubleshooter*, has some advice the BBC hierarchy would do well to follow. No organisation, he says in his book *Making It Happen*, can survive and thrive in a changing environment without "a strategic one-liner".

The BBC avoids articulating that one-liner at peril, as Michael Grade warned in his attack on the corporation's obsessive secrecy and mistrust of its own talent, alienated *en masse* by senior management's refusal to include them in their battle plans for survival into the 21st century.

"The BBC needs all the friends it can muster at this moment in its history," Mr Grade told programme makers in Edinburgh. "Keeping the public out of the debate until it suits the corporation's own convenience is a very high-risk strategy. The staff are afraid to speak publicly unless every word has been cleared with the BBC's own thought police... the silence is eerie, ominous."

Even the most ardent of the corporation's defenders cannot understand why the BBC has allowed others — from the Channel 4 chief executive to the government — to set the terms of the debate surrounding its future as a public service broadcaster past the expiry of its royal charter in 1996.

That Sir David Attenborough, the natural history presenter, should feel sufficiently frustrated to publicly decry "suicidal" BBC policies is cited as evidence of the BBC's mishandling of a crucial debate. That Marmaduke Hussey, the BBC chairman, should resort to personal insults against Mr Grade with the "bourbon in red braces" crack, rather than address substant-

tive criticisms in his speech, is rebuked as bad PR. It led David Mellor, the heritage secretary, to tell a TV interviewer that the BBC should "play the ball, not the man". The reluctant comments of John Birt, the director-general designate, did nothing last weekend to dispel the uncertainty.

Two years ago Simon Albury, the man credited with doing more to

The BBC needs all the friends it can muster at this moment'

ameliorate the government's widely-criticised ITV blind-bid auction legislation than any other as the energetic head of the Campaign For Quality Television (CQT), sat at lunch with two senior BBC executives at London's Odins.

"I told them that the simplest and most reliable way to win support was to have credible people saying credible things. I told them that they should set up a group of on-screen presenters led by David Attenborough and others with the same kind of credibility to be engaged with policy development. It was crucial for the BBC to take

them through the process so they could speak out for the BBC," Mr Albury says.

"And what have we seen now? Sir David, who epitomises the BBC, attacking the BBC. And then, in turn, being attacked by the chairman of the BBC. The carelessness and contempt for talent that has created the circumstances where this could happen beggars belief."

Mr Albury, a former *What The Papers Say* producer who says his lobbying skills were honed by beat poet Allan Ginsberg and former CIA operative Miles Copeland, won the praise of Mr Mellor two years ago for not only providing him with some of the most "stimulating" occasions in his ministerial career but for also providing a "splendid example to how to run an influential and successful campaign on an important issue".

Had it not been for the CQT, an engaging group of TV performers and producers which boasted such luminaries as Rowan Atkinson, John Cleese, Michael Palin, George Harrison, Esther Rantzen and Melvyn Bragg, the 1990 broadcasting act would not have included a quality test to mitigate the worst effects of the highest-bidding system.

"Since then the whole television industry has been waiting for a clear signal from the BBC. People are desperate to offer support but the BBC has cast its supporters adrift. It has ignored its talent, ignored its staff, ignored its supporters throughout the industry by giving them nothing to support," says Mr Albury, now director of corporate affairs at Meridian, a new ITV licence.

Only last Thursday did a copy of the BBC's blueprint for survival, leaked by a frustrated board of

management members, provide any real aims and values around which to campaign. The BBC would restore its pre-eminence in drama and entertainment, and support "fair and informed national debate" with wide-ranging news and current affairs throughout peaktime, while avoiding big-prize game shows and bought-in soaps.

The policy document, which avoids any explanation of *how* the lofty goals articulated within it are to be achieved, was not to be published until after Mr Mellor's green paper next month. "Finally we have something positive to campaign around. The BBC has a good story to tell. It was a wise move to leak it but why not present it to journalists properly?", says Mr Albury. "The BBC always reacts. Even Mellor made no secret two

years ago that he shared our despair that the BBC was so reactive," Mr Albury says. However, a board of management sources says it was Mr Mellor who forced BBC governors to hold off with a

The carelessness and contempt for talent beggars belief'

policy statement until after October's green paper. But Mr Albury could not be more correct with this tip on human nature: "Reacting sends signals of uncertainty: a sign that an individual or group does

not believe 100 per cent what they are saying."

Clearly the BBC is not transmitting a strong signal to its audience. A survey conducted by the board of governors into public attitudes is understood to reveal a dramatic decline in the support and affection the public traditionally reserves for the corporation. Only one-third of licence payers are believed to be satisfied with the BBC and want to see it continue unchanged. The vast majority are either don't know or

don't care.

"The BBC has succeeded in divorcing the way the institution is seen, which is negative, from the way its talent is seen, which is very positive," says Mr Albury. "The BBC constitution says the governors are the BBC, but the reality is that for almost everyone, and even

for most politicians, the people who appear on the BBC are the BBC." He adds: "When the single voice of Sir David Attenborough speaks, it carries more authority than a whole chorus of Husseys, Birts, Checklands or Powells."

What the BBC should do now is take aside its most popular on-screen talent — from Sir David to Ms Rantzen, from Michael Buerk to Noel Edmonds, fill them in and set them free to talk to their audiences about the importance of the BBC. Mr Birt must also reassure the troops.

"BBC management does not have to control everything: just establish the pre-conditions and let others take the initiatives," Mr Albury says. "If they've got their one-liner right, they don't have to worry what others might say."

Despite a decline in the British film industry, the market for film magazines is booming

Silver screen in glossy print

Hardly a day passes without someone somewhere mourning the slow but seemingly inexorable decline of the British film industry. However, despite the doom and gloom, a host of movie magazines are springing up, confounding the sceptics.

This month sees the launch of two new titles and October marks the relaunch of a third. Film buffs will soon be spoilt for choice as never before, with more than half a dozen publications vying for their attention on the news-stand.

Cinema audiences plunged to an all-time low of little more than 50 million in 1984, with only a couple of long-running magazines, such as *Film Monthly*, competing for the shrinking audience of readers who wanted to know about new movies.

Three years ago, the pub-



Coming soon: EMAP Metro's new magazine

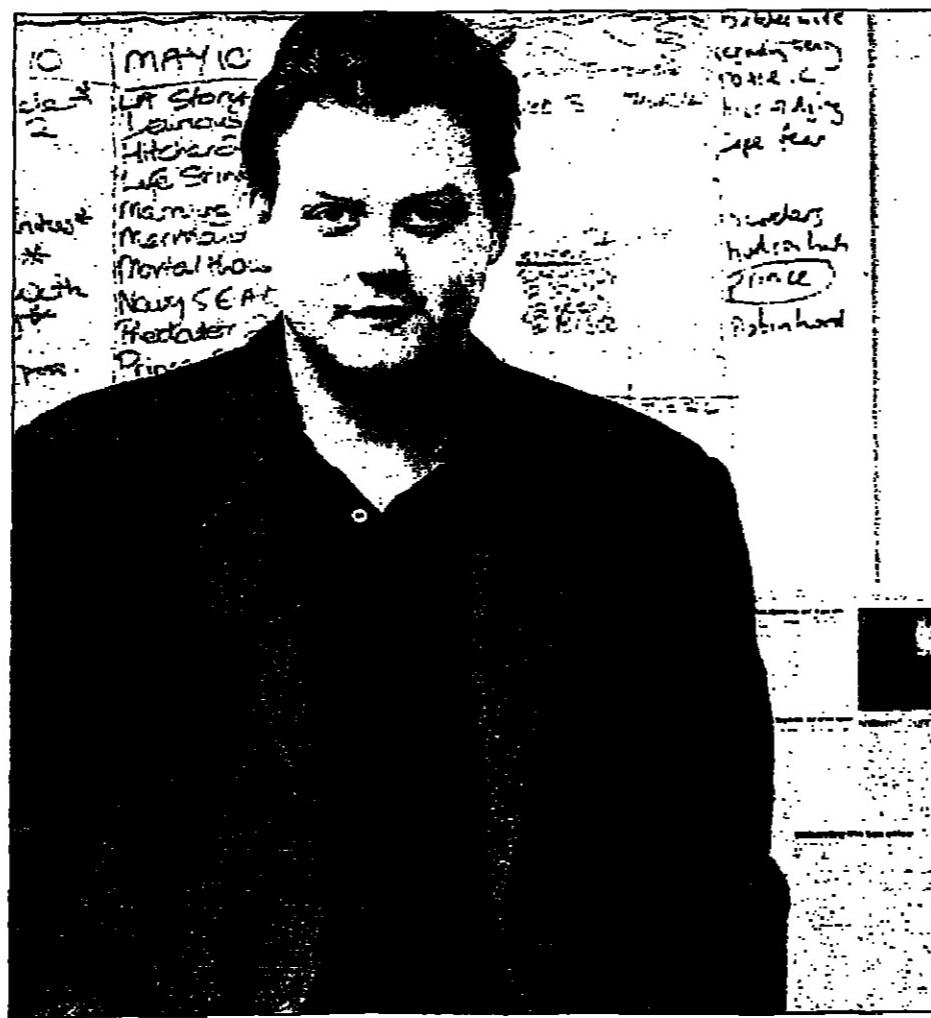
lisher EMAP launched *Empire* with the intention of re-paving in the film world the success of Q, a monthly rock music magazine. The

Sadly, focusing on home-grown films does not win new readers

new edition can sell another 40,000 copies. And he dismisses claims that it could take sales away from *Empire*.

"When we launched *Empire*, everyone said we'd be lucky to sell 40,000 copies," he says. "But we proved them wrong and we'll do so again. The new title is more film-biz orientated and is unlikely to pose a threat to its sister title. The UK has a more picture-led style of publishing and we'll be opening up the magazine to make it more accessible."

Later in September comes *Hit Movies*, the most au-

In the frame: Barry McIlheney, launch editor of *Premiere*, expects sales of 50,000

cious of the new film magazine, aimed at a teenage audience. It is being launched by Arctic Future, a relative newcomer to the publishing world, which has struck gold with *TV Hits*, another teen magazine.

The new, bi-monthly title has a 100,000 print run. It will be very different from other film magazines and will concentrate on glamorous, young American film stars, such as Julia Roberts, Sharon Stone and Christian Slater.

the market and taking the plunge."

Next month sees the relaunch of *Impact*, an action movie magazine published by Martial Arts Illustrated and first launched at the end of last year. It claims a circulation of nearly 50,000. Its background is very different from that of other movie magazines.

Moira Spencer, the company secretary, explains: "*Impact* grew out of our martial arts magazine's film section. Almost by chance we discovered there was tremendous interest in action films which wasn't being met by existing publications."

The title has a distinctive readership. Advertisements on how to build up biceps and woo women give an idea of the readership it is aiming for. Which other film magazine would carry a competition to win the latest in high-kicking combat gear?

Certainly not *Sight and Sound*, the highbrow British Film Institute magazine created by the merger of two specialist titles in 1990. The 20,000-selling publication is the only title to take any real interest in the British film business.

Sadly, focusing on home-grown films does not win new readers. As Mr McIlheney points out, commercial reasons push magazines in the opposite direction. He says: "We are not responsible for the success of the British film industry. Nine out of ten films at the cinema are American and we simply reflect what is happening in the real world."

YORK MEMBERSHIP

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THE TIMES

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8 1992

MANAGEMENT

Tender care begins at home

Neither councils nor tenants have faith in plans for the privatisation of housing management, Nicky Willmore reports

Council tenants around the country are planning a mass lobby of Parliament to protest at the government's latest initiative to erode councils' monopoly over social housing: the extension of compulsory competitive tendering (CCT) to the housing management service.

The principle of a private company taking over housing management is one which tenants find difficult to accept. "In Wandsworth we have a rapport with the local housing management staff. They are on the ground here with us," says tenant Aidan O'Roarty. "They might fall down from time to time on housing repairs, but we just go back to them and sort it out. We've found them to be accountable to us, more so than an outside body would be."

The proposals have also shaken councils. It is not simply that local authorities have failed to accept the principle of CCT or their new role as planners and purchasers of services. But now for the first time they can envisage CCT making inroads into sensitive services concerned with people's welfare.

"Housing management is too important a discipline to be left unchecked to the vagaries of the market," says Ged Lucas, housing director at Sandwell, West Midlands. "You are talking about the poorest and most disadvantaged



Aidan O'Roarty: local rapport may suffer

people in the country. To play ducks and drakes with their service is reprehensible."

Some aspects of the housing management service — housing benefit administration, for example — are as easy to envisage privatising as refuse collection or school catering. But drawing up contract specifications for the more personal elements of the service such as debt collecting, tenancy policies and prevention of homelessness is a different matter.

In addition, many welfare services, such as liaison with the police or dealing with racial harassment, are not formally written into housing managers' job descriptions, require specialist skills and would be difficult to specify in contracts.

Indeed, housing officers maintain that these skills mean that existing CCT rules just cannot apply. Tender documents should require contracting companies to meet certain professional qualifications, they argue — a move outlawed under CCT regulations on anti-competitive grounds.

The view is not a marginal one. Westminster City Council prides itself on being something of a trailblazer in CCT. It has already decided to test its housing management service against the market and is restructuring the housing department to allow this to happen.

Yet despite this apparent enthusi-



Urban blight: the private sector is showing little interest

asm. Westminster's director of housing Graham England is sceptical about handing over the entire housing management service, including the appointment of estate managers, to a private company. "It is absolutely vital to get the right level of sensitive management on the ground," Mr England says. "The people we deal with are often vulnerable and have social problems."

The government does recognise some of the difficulties inherent in its proposals. The consultation paper outlining its plans concedes there is much to be worked out. It is also disarmingly frank about the fact that there is at present very little private sector competition for housing management contracts.

"I cannot see how anyone would turn the very complex problems

many cities are dealing with into a profit-making venture without severely reducing levels of service," says Birmingham's housing manager David Cowans.

But optimism among council employees about the limited scope for competition is premature. Housing management is big business. Westminster alone will be putting out contracts worth £4 million a year.

Housing professionals might in the next three years find themselves working in the private sector, but they are unlikely to be without a job. The outlook for many council estates, particularly in inner cities, remains grim. Few are optimistic that social problems will improve significantly or that more resources will be found to address homelessness and deteriorating stock. As Birmingham's David Cowans says, CCT can do little to help there.

Near the top of the tree? Look out

Local government reorganisation means pruning senior management jobs which until recently seemed secure

More than 200 of the best paid public sector jobs in England and Wales are about to disappear as local government undergoes its biggest shakeup for two decades.

The prospect of job losses at all levels have so far scarcely featured in the debate about the government's plans for the comprehensive reorganisation of local authorities outside London and the metropolitan areas.

Yet the reality is that the main outcome of the change for a significant number of senior managers will be redundancy and the termination of what until last year appeared a safe and promising career. Those at the top of the management tree are more vulnerable than their junior colleagues to the inevitable process of merger and reconstruction that will follow the creation of new councils around the country.

Roughly the same number of front-line staff will be needed to provide services in a given area whatever the local government structure. But as soon as one moves up the management tree vulnerability increases.

According to the Local Government Management Bureau around 250 chief executive and chief officer posts may be lost as a result of reorganisation although it says most of the post holders should get other jobs.

The 12-member Local Government Commission, chaired by Sir John Banham, former director general of the Confederation of British Industry, began work on the review in the Isle of Wight on August 1.

Its five-year brief is to create a new structure of local government that reflects local loyalties and offers efficient and effective local services. The commission will tour the county reviewing councils in five annual batches. Michael Howard, the environment secretary, says he has no "blueprint" for the future, unlike his

predecessor, Michael Heseltine, who said he expected to see the existing two tiers of county and district councils replaced with a single tier of all purpose unitary authorities.

Mr Howard says unitary authorities "may provide the best solution in many areas" so unitary local government will probably become the norm. But creating it is more complex than simply abolishing one tier or the other. In the Isle of Wight all parties agree that a unitary council based on the Isle of Wight County Council offers the best

to employ staff associated with an organisation they may regard as remote and bureaucratic.

Their impending fate has already begun to raise fears about the ability of senior managers to cope with managing large-scale changes at the time their own jobs are under threat. That many will be tempted to "hedge-hop" to safer jobs is a fear expressed by Robin Wendt, secretary of the Association of County Councils.

"It is perfectly understandable that managers and professionals with families will seek security. The answer is to set up a staff commission, as was done in the 1974 reorganisation, to ensure an orderly transfer."

Lady Anson, chairman of the Association of District Councils, agrees with the need to stop valuable staff leaving. "We believe district councils are the natural unitary authorities and we can offer an exciting future for the people who work for us."

John Redwood, the local government minister, said he believed that far from exacerbating the problem the gradual process of change would give time for people to adapt. "It is a very real issue and I want to ensure that we do help. Obviously we do not want this to become a great ordeal with people fearing for their jobs," he said.

No decision had yet been taken on whether to set up a staff commission but Mr Redwood said one of the review commissioners, David Thomas, the former secretary of the local authority employers body LACSAB, had been appointed to address the personnel issues. "I hope there will still be definite career structures in local government and local authorities will still be good employers. I think there will be lots of very interesting jobs within the new local government."

Douglas Broom

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Higher Education Statistics Agency

CVCP

CVCP, CDP, SCOP and CSCFC are jointly setting up a new agency which will be responsible for the collection of statistical and financial statistics for the entire Higher Education system in the UK.

Applications are invited for the post of:

Chief Executive
Salary not less than £45,000.

The successful candidate will be involved in the setting up and staffing of the Agency and will then carry out the day-to-day running. This may be for a five-year period and may be suitable for a secondment.

Candidates will be able to demonstrate:

- An understanding of the HE system
- Experience of large data collection systems
- Up to date knowledge of appropriate information technology
- Well-proven managerial ability, particularly of a team of specialist staff
- Sensitivity to balancing the needs of data providers and the demands of customers.

For further details please contact Roger Blunn, CDP (071 637 9939).

Applications should be submitted to: Catherine Bonfield, CVCP, 20 Taplow Street, London WC1H 9EZ.

Closing date for applications Monday 21 September.

HAMPSTEAD WELLS AND CAMPDEN TRUST

The Trustees of the Hampstead Wells and Campden Trust, a registered charity, invite applications for the post (location, Hampstead) of Clerk to the Trustees, which becomes vacant on 31st March 1993. The position is a part-time one occupying some twenty hours a week, and is remunerated accordingly. The Clerk is the Chief Executive Officer to the Trustees.

Those interested in applying should ask for further particulars from the Clerk to the Trustees, Hampstead Wells and Campden Trust, 62 Rosslyn Hill, London NW3 1ND (071-435 1570). The Trustees would like to receive applications in writing not later than 2nd October 1992.

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Director of Client Services

Director of Contract Services

Belfast City Council is the largest Local Authority in Northern Ireland currently employing around 2,500 personnel and spending in excess of £250 million each year to provide essential services to a population of almost 300,000. As part of a major programme of change management designed to enable the authority to compete effectively in the Compulsory Competitive Tendering process, the Council is now seeking two dynamic and effective leaders to lead the new Directorates of Client Services and Contract Services.

Director of Client Services

Salary range £43,293 - £47,625,
plus 10% fixed term premium.

The person appointed must have initiative, drive and enthusiasm and be capable of building, motivating and managing a team which will ensure the delivery of quality services for the citizens of Belfast.

The new Director will develop and promote a performance-based culture throughout the Directorate. He/she will also be expected to make a significant contribution to the development of corporate management within the Authority through effective participation in the Council's management team. The successful candidate will have a proven track record of leadership and service planning at senior management level within a multi-disciplined organisation.

The person appointed will be an effective communicator capable of providing elected members with high quality advice on policy related issues.

It is the Council's intention to offer this post on a fixed term four year contract, with the possibility of renewal for a further period based on performance review. The salary will be negotiable to the current maximum of £47,625 (plus 10% fixed term premium).

Director of Contract Services

Salary range £41,412 - £45,552,
plus 15% fixed term premium.

The overall responsibility of the new Director will be to plan and manage the operations of the Council's Direct Service operations in a way which will optimise its chances of success.

He/she will therefore be a commercially attuned and business orientated professional to lead the new Contract Services Directorate.

The successful applicant will be expected to develop the most appropriate and cost effective methods of service delivery, underpinned by the principles of total quality, which will ensure that the service standards specified by the Authority are met fully at least cost.

The person appointed must be a good communicator capable of stamping his/her authority on the new Directorate and should have exceptional entrepreneurial flair and extensive experience in managing direct labour forces.

The new Director will have a proven track record of leadership and service planning at senior management level within a multi-disciplined organisation and will be expected to provide high quality advice on policy related matters to elected members.

It is the Council's intention to offer this post on a fixed term three year contract, with the possibility of renewal for a further period being based on performance. The salary will be negotiable to the current maximum of £45,552 (plus 15% fixed term premium).

For details of both these important and challenging posts please write or telephone for an information pack and application form to:- Assistant Town Clerk, (Management Services), City Hall, BELFAST BT1 5GS.

Telephone: (0232) 320202 Extension 2243.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 30th September, 1992.

Canvassing will disqualify.

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DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCE STRATEGY

£50,817 Plus Performance Related Pay up to 10% + Benefits
4 year fixed term contract (renewable, subject to agreement)

Bedfordshire County Council is progressing through a period of considerable change, which has at its heart a greater awareness of our customers and their needs and a focus on the delivery of quality services to meet those needs.

Working with the County Council and other Chief Officers, the role of this new post will be to lead and manage a highly motivated group of professionals in developing a strategic approach to policy issues and providing support and advice on Human Resource issues across the Authority, which serves a population of 540,000. It has a budget of £458 million and employs 20,000 people.

If you are the right person for this key position you will have proven Human Resource skills in employee relations, equal opportunities, human resource management and training and development. In addition you will have extensive management experience at a senior level in a large organisation. A working knowledge of local government will clearly be useful although not absolutely essential.

We seek a leader with vision who is prepared to innovate, but take professional staff along with them. Well developed communication skills will therefore be critical.

If you are educated to degree level with an appropriate supporting qualification, have a proven track record in the management of change and wish to make a major impact in a progressive organisation, please write for a comprehensive information pack to:

The Chief Executive, County Hall, Bedford, MK42 9AP, or telephone (0234) 228288 (24 hour answerphone). Those wishing an informal discussion on the post are welcome to contact Denis Clegg, the Chief Executive, on Bedford (0234) 228000.

Closing date for all applications : 25th September 1992.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Court of Appeal

Power to admit fresh evidence on retrial

Regina v Ahluwalia
Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth,
Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice
Swinton Thomas and Mr Justice
Judge

Judgment July 31

On an appeal against conviction in 1989 for murder, the Court of Appeal considered it expedient in the interests of justice to use power under section 23(1) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968 to admit fresh evidence of the appellant's endogenous depression, which some experts would term a major depressive disorder, at the material time, quashed the conviction and ordered a retrial at the Central Criminal Court as soon as possible. Bail was refused.

Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that the case was tragic and most unusual and it was unclear why a medical report of the appellant's condition, which was available before the trial, came to be overlooked or not further pursued at the time.

The appeal was brought by Kiranji Ahluwalia, aged 36, who was found guilty of a killing to 2 majority, after a second trial on a plea of guilty to manslaughter, but not guilty to murder, which was unacceptable to the prosecution, at Lewes Crown Court (Mr Justice Leonard and a jury of the murder of her husband by throwing petrol in his bedroom and setting it alight. He sustained burns from which he died six days later, on May 15, 1989).

Section 23(1) provides "... the Court of Appeal may, if they think it necessary or expedient in the interests of justice... (e) receive the evidence, if tendered, of any witness."

Mr Geoffrey Roberson, QC and Mr Andrew Nicol for the appellant; Mr Robert Hartman, QC and Mr Malcolm Fortune for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that leave to appeal had been granted only in September 1991.

The appellant had suffered violence and abuse from the deceased from the outset of the marriage. He was a big man, she was slight and her complaints of violence were supported by entries in her doctor's notes. There were two children, one born in 1984, the other in 1986.

She discovered in March 1989 that he was having an affair with a woman who worked with him at the Post Office. He taunted the appellant with that relationship. Despite all that, she wished to hold the marriage together, partly for the sake of the children.

On the evening of May 8 she tried to talk to him about their relationship but he refused, indicating that it was over. He demanded money from her and

threatened to beat her if she did not give him £200 the next morning, began to iron some clothes and threatened to burn her face with the hot iron if she did not leave him alone.

She went to bed about midnight, was unable to sleep and brooded on his refusal to speak to her and threat to beat her up next morning. She had bought a can of petrol and had put it in the lean-to outside the house. At some time after 2.30 am, she got up, went downstairs, poured about two pints of petrol into a bucket, to make it easier to throw, lit a candle and carried them upstairs, taking an oven glove for self-protection and a stick.

She went to his bedroom, threw in some petrol, lit the stick from the candle and threw it into the room.

Neighbours rushed to the burning house, found the door locked and saw her standing at the window clutching a child, just staring and looking calm. She was dressed in pyjamas, had the child out and laid it on the floor. She stood staring at the blazing window with a glazed expression.

At trial she did not give evidence and no medical evidence was adduced on her behalf. Her case was that she had no intention either of killing her husband or of doing him really serious harm, only to inflict some pain on him. Provocation was a secondary fine of defence.

Three grounds of appeal were raised. The first two related to the judge's directions on provocation, concerning sudden and temporary loss of self-control and the appellant's characteristics. The third ground was diminished responsibility, not raised at trial.

The phrase "loss of self-control" which was used by Mr Justice Devlin and approved by the Court of Appeal in *R v Duffield* [Note] (1949) 1 All ER 932, encapsulated an essential ingredient in the defence of provocation, understanding that the appellant was suffering from a "battered woman syndrome" such that it had become a characteristic within Lord Diplock's formulation.

English cases concerned with the reasonable man element of provocation had tended to focus on physical characteristics. However, the endorsement in *R v Newell* (1980) 71 Cr App R 1053 of *R v Campbell* (1981) 74 Cr App R 154, *R v Whifford* (1975) 61 Cr App R 209 and *R v Thornton* (1992) 1 All ER 306 and said that the judge's references to sudden and temporary loss of self-control in his direction to the jury were correct in law.

No medical or other evidence was before the judge and jury and none even from the appellant to suggest that she suffered from a post-traumatic stress disorder or battered woman syndrome or any other specific condition which could amount to a characteristic as defined in *McGregor*.

Had the evidence now before their Lordships been adduced before the trial judge, different considerations might have applied but there was no basis for the judge to refer to a characteristic consisting of an altered personality or mental state of the appellant.

The jury could have been in no doubt that it was necessary for them to consider the history of the marriage, the misconduct and ill-treatment of the appellant by her husband as part of the whole story, culminating in the happenings on

the night of May 8/9.

The judge's summing up was fair and correct in law. Mr Robertson's criticisms of the direction were unfounded. He had frankly stated that his attempts to broaden the definition of provocation or, alternatively, to criticize the summing up stemmed fundamentally from the consequences to the appellant of her conviction for murder.

However, the existence of a mandatory life sentence for all murders was a matter for Parliament. Their Lordships could not bend the law in an individual case or class of case where it might be thought that that sentence operated harshly.

As to diminished responsibility, a significant number of psychiatric and similar reports, most of them obtained only recently, had been put before the court. They expressed the opinion that at the time of the killing, the appellant's mental responsibility for her actions was diminished within the meaning of the Homicide Act 1957.

Ordinarily any available defences should be advanced at trial, unless the application of criminal law was available to support a plea of diminished responsibility, it was to be adduced at trial.

Otherwise, defendants might be encouraged to run one defence at trial in the belief that, if failed, the Court of Appeal would allow a different defence to be raised and give the defendant, in effect, two opportunities to run different defences. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Likewise, if there was no evidence to support a diminished responsibility at the time of the trial, the Court of Appeal would allow a different defence to be raised and give the defendant, in effect, two opportunities to run different defences. Nothing could be further from the truth.

In the circumstances the verdict should not be regarded as unsafe and unsatisfactory. Their Lordships emphasised that the circumstances they had described had led them to their conclusion were wholly exceptional.

The proper course was to order a retrial.

The appeal was allowed, the conviction was quashed and an order made for retrial at the Central Criminal Court as soon as practicable. An application for bail was refused.

Solicitors: R. R. Sanghvi & Co, Wembury, CPS, Lewes.

available before trial from a recognised medical practitioner for the purposes of the Mental Health Act 1983. The doctor expressed the opinion that the appellant was suffering from endogenous depression at the material time, a condition which in the opinion of some experts would be termed a major depressive disorder.

It was unclear how that potentially important medical came to be overlooked or was not further pursued at the time of the trial. Their Lordships had been told that the appellant herself had no recollection of discussing diminished responsibility as a result of the report.

Although there had been opinion available to the Crown to challenge diminished responsibility and although the appellant herself had not been consistent in her accounts to different consultants, their Lordships had concluded that it would be expedient in the interests of justice to admit the fresh evidence under the 1986 Act.

They had considered the fresh evidence, had also taken into account the evidence given at trial that the appellant's strange behaviour after lighting the fire as witnessed by neighbours, and appreciated that the Crown had not had a proper opportunity to consider the fresh evidence.

Nevertheless, their Lordships had been driven to the conclusion that without, it would seem, any fault on the part of the appellant, there might well have been an arguable defence which, for reasons unexplained, had not been exercised not to pursue it.

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Clear typescript

S v S

On an appeal from justices it was the duty of the clerk to the justices to provide the court with a clear, legible typescript of the notes of evidence.

Mrs Justice Bracewell so stated in her Divisional Order 8 July 8 when dismissing an appeal by a father from the refusal of justices at Sittingbourne Family Proceedings Court to grant him contact with his

child and two stepchildren.

HER LADYSHIP said that the court had been provided with 18 pages of handwritten notes of evidence on foolscap. The pages had then been photocopied. The notes of evidence had been extremely difficult to decipher.

It was essential that notes of evidence should be provided in legible typescript so that an appeal could be disposed of expeditiously.

(5) Disposal of... shall have the same effect as a refusal by examining magistrates

Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Court can review judge's dismissal of charges

Regina v Central Criminal Court, Ex parte Director of Serious Frauds Office
Before Lord Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Pill

Judgment July 30

The jurisdiction conferred on a crown court in serious fraud cases to dismiss charges in an indictment was subject to judicial review.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when allowing an application by the Director of the Serious Fraud Office and holding that the decision of Mr Justice Tucker, at a pre-trial application at the Central Criminal Court, to dismiss 46 charges of theft against Mr Azil Nadir.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr Antony Shaw for Mr Nadir; Mr Robert Owen, QC and Mr Stephen Richards for the Director of the SFO.

Lord Justice WOOLF said that Mr Nadir, chairman and chief executive of Polly Peck International plc, was charged with theft of £151 million from that company between August 1987 and August 1990. On February 7, 1992, 66 charges of theft were re-introduced to the Central Criminal Court pursuant to section 4 of the Criminal Justice Act 1987.

Mr Justice Tucker, nominated by the Lord Chief Justice as the trial judge, dismissed 46 charges relating to transfers from one company to another on a pre-trial application by Mr Nadir under section 6 of the 1987 Act because of the absence of any appropriate mandamus, prohibition and certiorari as the High Court possessed in relation to the jurisdiction of the inferior court.

His Lordship referred to *H v Smiley* (1983) 1 AC 622 and *R v Sampson* [1987] 1 WLR 194 and concluded that orders which affected the conduct of a trial on indictment or were an integral part of the trial process were not a section 6 application.

Section 29 of the Supreme Court of 1981 created a problem in respect of the supervisory jurisdiction of the Divisional Court. It provided "(3) In relation to the jurisdiction of the crown court, other than its jurisdiction in matters relating to trial on indictment, the High Court shall have such jurisdiction as the High Court possessed in relation to the jurisdiction of the inferior court."

His Lordship referred to *H v Smiley* (1983) 1 AC 622 and *R v Sampson* [1987] 1 WLR 194 and concluded that orders which affected the conduct of a trial on indictment or were an integral part of the trial process were not a section 6 application.

An application under section 6 of the 1987 Act was clearly not part of the trial, as it was before arraignment. Nor was it an integral part of the trial process. It was a section 6 application.

However, was it a decision affecting the conduct of a trial on indictment? His Lordship referred to *R v Central Criminal Court, Ex parte Randle* (The Times November 20, 1990; [1991] 1 WLR 1087) and *R v Norwich Crown Court, Ex parte Belsham* [1992] 1 WLR 54) which were referred to in *R v Manchester Crown Court, Ex parte DPP* (The Times July 29) where Lord Justice Leggan pointed out that the stress laid by

to commit for trial, except that no further proceedings may be brought on a dismissed charge except by preterm of a voluntary bill of indictment."

That emphasised the close relationship between section 6 of the 1987 Act and an application under section 6 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 that an accused should not be committed for trial.

However section 6(5) of the 1987 Act provided greater protection to an accused than section 6 of the 1980 Act since if an accused was not committed by magistrates on a charge when an indictment was set down the prosecution could re-introduce a count reflecting it. That was not possible under section 6 of the 1987 Act because of the words "no further proceedings may be brought on a dismissed charge".

A section 6 application, under the 1987 Act, had to be made before a charge was brought, while a preparatory hearing under section 9 of that Act had to take place after arraignment. There was a right of appeal with leave on section 9 matters but it was unfortunate that there was no express right of appeal in respect of a section 6 decision.

A decision to stay a trial on indictment because it would be an abuse of process was reviewable but the position was unclear as to an application to quash an indictment on the same basis.

Notwithstanding powerful submissions of counsel, His Lordship concluded that the court did have jurisdiction to review a decision on a section 6 application.

The critical test was still the language of section 29(3) of the 1981 Act as applied by the courts. The Act did not give any clear indication that it was the intention of Parliament that if there were otherwise jurisdiction that jurisdiction was to be taken away.

The ability to make an application for judicial review need not unnecessarily delay the trial. The decisive factor was the close relationship between the nature of the section 6 application and committal proceedings by magistrates.

It would be anomalous if it were not possible judicially to review the exceptional decision of the sort given in the instant case. For there to be no method of correction of a section 6 decision would be unsatisfactory.

His Lordship added that the jurisdiction should only be exercised in extremely limited circumstances.

Mr Justice Pill delivered a concluding judgment.

Solicitors: Pannone March Pearson; Treasury Solicitor.

PERSONAL

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES

ELECTRICITY ACT 1989
SLOUGH ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES LIMITED
This notice from Slough Electricity Supplies Limited is applying for a Private Electricity Licence in the following terms:
SLOUGH ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES LIMITED
1 Cresswell Road, Slough, SL1 4EE
(2) Address of the applicant or, in the case of a body corporate, the registered or principal office:
1 Cresswell Road, Slough, SL1 4EE
(3) Where the applicant is a Company, the full names of the current Directors and the Company's registered number:
Directors:
Sir Nigel Hobbs, Roger William Carey, Derek Robert Wilson, Hugh Linklater Thomson, David Edmund Frederick Shattock, Philip Norman Jackson
Registered Number: 2475414
(4) Any interest holding of 20 per cent or more of the shares of an applicant is held by a body corporate or partnership or an unincorporated association carrying on a trade or business with or without a view to profit, the name(s) and address(es) of the holder(s) of such shares shall be provided. All the shares of the applicant are beneficially owned by SLOUGH ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES LTD.
Desired date from which the licence is to take effect:
1st November, 1992
(5) A sufficient description adequately specifying the nature and situation of the premises intended to be supplied, within the power bands specified in and to the extent provided by paragraph 7 below:
Any proposed new generation, supply or distribution of electricity by SLOUGH ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES LTD. will not exceed 1 MW in the respective authorised areas of the following Public Distribution System: Eastern Electricity plc; East Midlands Electricity plc; London Electricity plc; Manweb plc; Midlands Electricity plc; Northern Electricity plc; NORWEB plc; SECBORD plc; Southern Electricity plc; South Wales Electricity plc; South Western Electricity plc; Yorkshire Electricity Group plc; and to the National Grid Company plc.
(6) A statement describing specifically the nature and extent of the proposed new generation, supply or distribution of electricity by SLOUGH ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES LTD. to which reference is made in Schedule 3 Powers - To the extent required for the installation, maintenance, removal or replacement of the applicant's system or any part thereof necessary to enable the applicant to supply electricity to premises as authorised under the licence.
Schedule 4 Powers and Rights - To the extent required to carry out works in relation to, or in pursuance of, the installation, inspection, maintenance, adjustment, repair, alteration, replacement and removal:
a) Electric lines which are necessary to enable the applicant to supply electricity to premises as authorised under the licence;
b) Electrical plant associated with such lines and plant;
c) Associated plant and lines or plant.
(7) Details of any services held, applied for or being applied for by the applicant in respect of the generation, transmission or supply of electricity:
Private Electricity Supply Licence No. UOF/81/125.
Dated: 1st September, 1992
Philip N. Jackson (Dr)
Director
SLOUGH ELECTRICITY SUPPLIES LIMITED
NOTES in accordance with the Electricity (Applications for Licences and Extensions of Licences) Regulations 1990, maps relevant to the above application have been lodged at Regional Offices of the Office of Electricity Regulation and are available for inspection by the public between 10 am and 4 pm on any working day

CHARITY COMMISSION

Award in Osteopathy

2. The following applications are to be made to the Board of Governors of the Royal College of Osteopaths, 10 Arden Street, London WC1E 7EP, or addressed to the Secretary, 2nd Floor, 10 Arden Street, London WC1E 7EP.

3. Applications for awards

4. Applications for awards

5. Applications for awards

6. Applications for awards

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11. Applications for awards

12. Applications for awards

13. Applications for awards

14. Applications for awards

15. Applications for awards

16. Applications for awards

BUSINESS 15-21
LAW TIMES 23-25

BUSINESS TIMES

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8 1992

SPORT
26-30

BUSINESS EDITOR JOHN BELL



TODAY IN BUSINESS

DISCONTENT



As the Russian winter looms pressure is growing for Boris Yeltsin to breathe life back into an economy in steep decline
Page 19

OVERCHARGED

Companies and local authorities are paying millions of pounds too much in bank charges, a survey has found
Page 17

INACTIVE



Pentland Group made nearly £20 million in the first six months, simply by resting on its laurels
Page 16

PERKING UP

Perkins Foods' pre-tax profits rose from £10.5 million to £10.9 million in the first half. The dividend is held at 1.7p
Tempus, page 18

LAW TIMES



Judges have been grumbling about their salaries for years but are unlikely to strike. David Pannick writes
Pages 23 and 25

THE POUND

US dollar
1.9967 (+0.0047)
German mark
2.8002 (-0.0015)
Exchange index
92.4 (same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
1733.4 (+4.4)
FT-SE 100
2372.2 (+10.0)
New York Dow Jones
Closed
Tokyo Nikkei Avg
18440.18 (-115.12)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 10%
3-month interbank: 10%+0.5%
3-month eligible bills: 9.5%+0.5%
US Prime Rate: 6%
Federal Funds: 2.5%
3-month Treasury Bills: 2.92-2.95%
30-year bonds: 9.5%+0.5%

CURRENCIES

London:
\$ 1.9967
£ 1.9962
€ 1.9963
SwF 1.9963
FF 1.9963
Yen 1.9963
E. Index: 92.4
ECU: £0.724879
£ 1.9963
Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$343.25 £343.00
Close \$342.90 £343.20
£172.00 £172.50
New York:
Comex \$341.95 £342.45*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct) \$20.25/bbl (£20.15)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 103.8 July (1987=100)
* Denotes Friday's close

Sterling closes at DM2.80 in thin trading

Bath fails to resolve strains within ERM

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE firm commitment European Community finance ministers and central bankers gave on Saturday to defend the existing parity of the exchange-rate mechanism produced the intended calm in the currency market, but failed to lift the pound more temporally.

In an extremely thin market, with America shut for Labour Day, sterling moved towards DM2.81 during the morning, only to ease back during the afternoon as the dollar started to weaken against the mark. At 4pm, the official London close, sterling was at DM2.802, only slightly below where it ended last week and close to half a pfennig above its low for the day. Against the softer dollar, it advanced to \$1.9967 from Friday's \$1.9920.

The lira rebounded 2 lira to stand at 763.40 to the mark. The Bank of Italy, which on Friday raised its discount rate to 15 per cent, did not appear

bankers provided fresh reassurance on the ERM, currency analysts fear that the widened gap between American and German interest rates will put renewed strain on the European Monetary System. Market uncertainty about the outcome of the French referendum on the Maastricht treaty appears to be waning. The latest poll, issued after the European close yesterday, showed 59 per cent in favour of ratification.

The Bundesbank pledge not

to tighten its key lending rates,

contained in the formal statement from Bath, helped sentiment for sterling and the pound, the currencies on which the market focused after the American rate cut was flagged on Friday.

The lira rebounded 2 lira to stand at 763.40 to the mark.

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Interest on Reebok cash triples profit for Pentland

By MATTHEW BOND

PENTLAND Group, which made one fortune out of Reebok sport shoes and hopes to make another by reviving the Adidas brand, has confirmed that it will have to run extremely fast to beat the highly-profitable option of standing still.

Pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30 were more than trebled at £19.7 million. But the bulk of the improvement was achieved because the sporting goods company did precisely nothing.

That became possible last year, when Pentland finally sold its 32 per cent stake in Reebok for \$396 million, realising a £150 million profit.

Opec oil demand forecast

By A CORRESPONDENT

PRELIMINARY studies by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries suggest demand for the group's crude oil will be about 25.2 million barrels per day in the fourth quarter of this year.

Final forecasts will be put to ministers when they meet in Geneva on September 16 to set quotas for the six months starting in October.

Previous forecasts by independent analysts of the likely demand for Opec crude oil in the October to December quarter range from about 24.75 million bpd to well above 25 million.

Ministers continue to jockey for position with Iran, which is again insisting that the goal should be to get average prices up to Opec's declared target of \$21 per barrel.

Producing more oil to force other Opec members into line was, in the 1980s, a Saudi Arabian tactic. The Saudis have seemed reticent ahead of the forthcoming talks.



Best foot forward: Neil Franchino, chief executive, and Judy Hutcheson, finance director, yesterday

Suter likely to peg payout despite fall

By MICHAEL TATE, CITY EDITOR

DAVID Abell, chairman of Suter, the industrial conglomerate, has forecast that the group will hold its 8.8p a share dividend for the fourth year running, even though profits have more than halved in the period.

Suter's decline appears to have been arrested and Mr Abell reports the second-half recovery in 1991 has been

followed by a small improvement in profits in the first half of 1992. The pre-tax figure emerges at £9.4 million, compared with £9.2 million a year ago.

Earnings per share are unchanged at 5.4p, as is the interim dividend, at 3.2p, and Suter expects to pay an unchanged 5.6p final.

The profits advance, recorded in the face of a 3 per cent downturn in turnover, to £100.8 million, is due to the strength of the group's portfolio and its tight financial and management controls, Mr Abell says. Suter has interests in a range of niche activities.

Mr Abell sees no signs of improvement in the UK and continental economy, and expects recovery, when it comes, to be slow.

Balance sheet gearing has been trimmed from 80 per cent a year ago, to 76 per cent, but interest cover has improved to 5.9 times.

Abell: controls pay off

Scholl shuffles to better half time

By OUR CITY EDITOR

INCREASED spending on promoting the Scholl name and developing its footwear and care products bit into the group's trading profits during the first half of the year. But interest on the proceeds of last year's £24.5 million rights issue allowed Neil Franchino, the chief executive, to report a rise in pre-tax profits from £1.6 million to £12.3 million.

The pre-tax figure, struck after a £420,000 write-off in connection with the disposal of the French and Belgian retail operations, has the benefit of about £1 million in investment income and a similar saving on working capital requirements.

Earnings per share, on the capital enlarged by the rights issue, have dipped from 11.6p to 10.4p, despite a £1 million extraordinary gain relating to provisions no longer required. A confident Mr Franchino is nevertheless lifting the interim dividend from 2.5p to 2.6p, a

move reflecting the strength of the balance sheet and the board's expectation of a satisfactory result for the year.

In the UK, where Scholl says it has about 70 per cent of the foot and legcare product market, the group stood up to the recession, despite continuing destruction by trade customers. The latter also appears to be deepening in continental Europe, significant in that Scholl has a large presence in Italy and France. Retail sales at the group's 150 outlets "remained dull across the board", Mr Franchino said.

Scholl still has the bulk of its rights issue cash in the bank, despite buying Gerard House, a UK herbal medicines business, and the Canadian Scholl retail operations. Further acquisitions are expected.

Mr Franchino believes the UK market for herbal medicines is "significantly underdeveloped" and offers potential for above-average growth.

Peter Blacks dividend rises after setback

DISPOSALS reduced profits at Peter Blacks Holdings, the toiletries and footwear group. In the 12 months to May 31, the company, a Marks and Spencer supplier, earned pre-tax profits of £6.6 million, down from £7.2 million. But the final dividend is increased from 2.17p to 2.17p, making a total of 2.94p (2.84p). The company said there were no clear signs of economic recovery but current trading pointed towards "a positive year".

Turnover was down from £126 million to £106.2 million, reflecting the company's withdrawal from home furnishings and vulcanised footwear, which contributed sales of £17.5 million last time. Gearing was reduced from 39 per cent to 15 per cent. Interest charges fell from £3.08 million to £1.73 million, covered five times by operating profits.

Calderburn slips

CALDERBURN, the office furniture group formed through the merger of Alan Cooper and Mayfield last year, said the market declined in the first half and gave warning that second-half profits would be lower than in the first half. The company is maintaining the interim dividend at 2.8p a share after reporting pre-tax profits of £2.2 million for the half year to the end of June, compared with £2.3 million. Earnings were 5.7p a share (5.8p). The shares fell 5p to 134p. Turnover was down from £16.5 million to £14.9 million but operating profits were held at £2.17 million (£2.19 million).

WSP holds payout

WSP Holdings, the consulting engineering group, has held the interim dividend at 1.1p a share after pre-tax profits fell from £613,000 to £352,000, leaving earnings at 2.4p a share (4p). Despite the reverse, Geoffrey Williams, chairman, said he was delighted with the results given the adverse trading conditions and a fierce competitive market. Turnover was held at £5 million, against £3.3 million, but operating profits fell from £800,000 to £554,000. The company said the results demonstrated its ability to maintain market share.

Hewitt lifts earnings

HEWITT Group, manufacturer of industrial ceramics and refractories, lifted profits before tax from £219,000 to £411,000 in the half year ended June 30, reflecting productivity improvements and reduced interest costs. The interim dividend is increased from 1p a share to 1.25p, payable from earnings of 7.3p (3.8p). Turnover rose from £3.58 million to £3.74 million and operating profits from £295,000 to £366,000, with operating margins rising from 8.2 per cent to 9.8 per cent.

Fairey advances 15%

FAIREY, the electronics and engineering group, has unveiled a 15 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits to £8.1 million for the six months to end June. The company said business conditions had not improved, but that new products and cash management had boosted profits. The electronic and electrical power operations saw operating profits up from £3.7 million to £5.1 million. Cash funds at the half year were £14.8 million (£12.7 million, December 31). The interim dividend rises 10 per cent to 3.3p.

Brammer declines 6%

BRAMMER, the bearings, power transmission systems and pumps distributor and electronic equipment rental group, saw taxable profits decline 6 per cent to £4.2 million in the first half of the year. Turnover was £56.1 million, 2 per cent less than in the same period last year. Hugh Lang, the chairman, described the result as "creditable" in the light of "very depressed conditions in all our markets". However, he gave a warning that there was still no sign of an upturn. The interim dividend is held at 4.5p.

Goodhead cuts interest

A SHARP reduction in interest charges has allowed Goodhead Group, the printer and publisher, to increase profits before exceptional items more than nine-fold to £978,000 for the year to end-May. However, pre-tax profits fell 6 per cent to £721,000 after charging £257,000 of exceptional items. Turnover on continuing activities fell 26 per cent to £40.3 million. Operating profits on continuing activities rose 24 per cent to £2.3 million. A 0.5p (nil) final dividend makes an unchanged total of 0.5p.

Kynoch falls at halfway

KYNOCHE Group, the former textile company that is now mainly a scientific and medical equipment manufacturer, has announced a 17 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £380,000 for the first half of the year. Fully taxed earnings per share rose 14 per cent to 1.6p after stripping out a one-off Gulf war-related gain in the first half of 1991 and losses from discontinued textile operations. The company said that it was "encouraged" by the growth in the healthcare contamination control group. There is again no interim dividend.

Frost doubles profit

FROST Group, a petrol retailer rescued from the wreckage of Norfolk House group, has reported pre-tax profits of £2.6 million for the six months to June 30. The results are the company's first interim since it was re floated on the stock market last October by Norfolk House's receiver. Profit is double last year's, after a 32.5 per cent increase in turnover to £51.5 million, mostly due to growth in the number of outlets. A maiden interim dividend of 5.5p is being paid.

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SMALLER COMPANIES Cattle's increases credit business

DEMAND for consumer credit nationally may be weak but Cattle's Holdings, the financial services group active in the north of England and Scotland, continues to expand its weekly collected credit business.

Interim results showed profits up from £3.87 million pre-tax to £25.23 million, with a 30 per cent rise in earnings to 3.16p.

Alex Robinson, a Smith New Court analyst, has upgraded his full-year profit forecast from £11.5 million to £11.7 million, rising to £13.2 million in 1993, and rates the shares a strong buy at 66p. So does Karen Neale, of BZW, whose forecast for next year is £13.3 million, and who rates the shares as "defensive and inexpensive".

The weekly collected credit division lifted profits from £4.1 million to £5.2 million, with the loan book rising £2 million to £7 million. This unfastened form of credit is still reaching 4 per cent in depressed consumer markets. Cattle's does not rely on sec-

MARTIN BARROW

Li Ka-shing invests in Shanghai port

FROM LULU YU IN HONG KONG

LI KA-SHING, the Hong Kong businessman, has expressed confidence in China's booming economy by making huge investments across the border for the first time. His flagship Hutchison Whampoa group, which owns the container port at Felixstowe, Suffolk, has signed a HK\$1.4 billion (£91.5 million) deal to take over container operations in Shanghai.

Hutchison will be a 50 per cent partner with the Shanghai Port Authority, which owns the coastal city's three terminals. The Hong Kong company will pay for the upgrading of the terminals and seek to double their combined capacity to 1.6 million 20-foot containers by 1995. It will be the first foreign concern to invest in and manage port operations in mainland China.

Shanghai's port has the largest cargo throughput in China, but is old and overcrowded. In addition to modernising existing terminals, Hutchison has first rights to develop new terminals in waters around Pudong, the city's newest industrial zone. The Chinese government is

eager to turn Pudong into a high-tech area with industries and commercial and financial services.

"The development of Shanghai's Pudong area is attracting worldwide attention," Mr Li said yesterday. "Shanghai will benefit through its growth as an economic, financial and trading centre within the Pacific Rim region."

Chung Kong Holdings, his property

flagship, is investing in another China project — the Yangtze development zone on Hainan Island.

Chung Kong yesterday agreed to join Kumagai Gumi (KG), the Japanese-owned construction company, and PeKing's investment arm, China International Trust and Investment Corporation (Citic) in a 70-year project to develop Yangtze, a barren area covering 30 square kilometres, into China's first free port and its most liberal economic zone.

Chung Kong is taking a 10 per cent stake in the joint venture, which also includes three Chinese banks and a Taiwanese company. Investment in Yangtze for the first five years is

estimated at HK\$10 billion and total spending on the entire project is expected to reach HK\$18 billion.

In June, Siemens of Germany formed a partnership with Kumagai Gumi, Citic and Japan's Maeda Corporation to construct a power station in the development zone.

This is the first time Mr Li has become heavily involved in a Chinese project. Until last year, his only investment was in a residential development in Guangdong province, bordering Hong Kong.

His overseas investments are mainly telecom interests in the UK; oil, property and banks in Canada; and commercial property in America. His spectacular foray into the Chinese market follows a surge in interest among Hong Kong businessmen, who have been buying land, building flats and opening stores in China in recent months.

Mr Li's move is expected to fuel further interest in property and infrastructure developments in mainland China and to push up prices in its large cities.

Nuclear power sale condemned as the ultimate madness

By PATRICIA TEZHAN AND MARTIN WALLER

THE COUNTRY'S biggest union, the Transport & General Workers Union, has described any attempt to privatise Britain's nuclear industry as "the ultimate madness". Jack Dromey, the national secretary, speaking on the opening day of the TUC's conference in Blackpool, condemned reports of government plans for a new series of privatisations by 1995.

He said: "Britain's nuclear industry, already reeling from blow after blow from a government claiming to support nuclear power, would be reduced to a rump."

A spokesman for the Treasury, which has responsibility for the government's privatisation programme, said suggestions that further electricity privatisations were under con-

sideration following the sale of the 12 regional distributors, the Scottish industry and majority stakes in the two generators were pure speculation.

But reports suggest that the government is taking another look at proposals to split up AEA Technology, formerly the UK Atomic Energy Authority, and sell it.

Ministers may also be considering the sale of the state-owned Scottish Nuclear and British Nuclear Fuels during the next few years, leaving only Nuclear Electric under state control.

Lord Wakeham, the former energy secretary now leader of the House of Lords, is understood to have drawn up the privatisation plans before the last general election. His proposals are believed to show the

Treasury stands to make substantial profits by splitting up AEA for either stock market flotation or sales to private companies.

Mr Dromey said: "Our opposition to privatisation is not dogma-driven. On the contrary, for five years we have pressed the industry to become more commercial, to diversify and to enter into joint ventures with the private sector. But the simple reality is that there is no future for Britain's nuclear industry without government support."

The Treasury reiterated its public stance that British Rail and British Coal are the only significant enterprises on the slip-way for privatisation. But speculation that British Nuclear Fuels may be sold off has been heightened by the appointment of John Guinness as chairman.

Mr Guinness was the top civil servant at the former Department of Energy who masterminded electricity privatisation there. The government is thought to be considering all options for raising money by asset sales, given the escalating need for public sector borrowing, and is believed to have run a slide-rule over the various state-owned agencies that could be sold.

Another option is the disposal of the state's remaining 40 per cent holdings in the two power generators, National Power and the smaller PowerGen.

The outstanding shares, which cannot be sold until next year under commitments given in the companies' privatisation prospectuses, are worth just over £2 billion at current stock market prices.

Nuclear Electric, which is making large losses, is regarded as unsaleable, not least because of the enormous cost of decommissioning nuclear power stations that are reaching the end of their operational lives.

It was this huge potential cost that led to the last-minute exclusion of the nuclear stations from the original privatisation proposals.

TUC reports, page 5

MCC administrator sells Nimbus stake

By OUR BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE administrator of Maxwell Communication Corporation, the collapsed media group, has sold a controlling stake in Nimbus Records, the Welsh compact disc manufacturer, to Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette, the New York investment bank, for an estimated £15 million.

DJL has agreed to buy a 75.1 per cent stake in Nimbus, which is one of the last of MCC's businesses in Europe to be sold. The remaining shares are being retained by the company's three founders, Count Labinsky, Gerald Reynolds and Michael Reynolds. The deal was signed last week and will be completed before the end of the month.

The deal safeguards the future of Nimbus, which makes up to 70 million compact discs a year at its plants in Cwmbran, Gwent, and Charlottesville, Virginia.

The group prints discs for most leading record companies and has recently produced records for artists such as Simply Red and Prince.

Unlike many other MCC subsidiaries, Nimbus has been consistently profitable and made £2.2 million before interest in the year to end-March last year.

The group has 700 employees and is on course to make sales of £50 million this year.

The deal is the result of a nine-month search by Nimbus's management for a new investor. Nimbus said yesterday that the new owner would allow it to continue to develop laser mastering systems and market its new holographic discs.

Count Labinsky said: "With DJL's support, the company is structured for growth in all areas of its business internationally."

Jonathan Phillips, a partner from Price Waterhouse, the administrator, said he was pleased with the sale, which followed an international marketing campaign.

The money raised from the sale of the Nimbus stake will help to repay MCC's £1.5 billion bank debt.

New-look Claremont rises 22%

By MATTHEW BOND

CLAREMONT Garments, which supplies Marks and Spencer with clothes for women and children, has reported a 22 per cent increase in first half pre-tax profits to £2.8 million. The improvement came despite a more modest 10 per cent increase in sales to £21.2 million in the 26 weeks to June 27.

Peter Wiegand, chairman, said the company had made "good progress despite the depressed retail clothing industry". Margins remained under pressure but this was being offset by savings throughout the business and by change the product mix.

The interim results are the first the company has reported since its demerger from Alexon Group last July. A 3.3p interim compares with a special demerger dividend of 3p paid by Alexon last year. The biggest change to the group came after the half-year end, in July, when the company agreed a £27 million takeover of J&F Fashions, another supplier of M&S. Claremont funded the acquisition through a £22 million rights issue. The enlarged group will supply M&S with over 8 per cent of its womenswear.

Rugby offered a company a day

By OUR CITY STAFF

RUGBY Group, one of the few building materials groups in Britain with cash in the bank, is receiving more than one approach a day from potential sellers of recession-hit businesses.

Alan Thomson, the finance director, said the approaches, which underlined the depth of the slump in the building industry, were coming mainly from banks anxious to handle the transactions. But Rugby, which announced a slight increase in interim pre-tax profits, in part because of interest earned on its growing cash pile, is inclined to wait until the worst ravages of the

recession are apparent before going on the acquisition trail. Rugby reported pre-tax profits up from £27.4 million to £30.2 million in the six months to July 31 and a dividend maintained at 2.85p. Geoffrey Higham, the chairman, said the hoped-for economic recovery in Britain did not arrive and construction activity continued to decline, but there was some recovery in Australia and America.

In June, Rugby bought part of the Ward Group from receivers for £15 million. It expects to make more such purchases, of either quoted or unquoted companies. "At the moment, we're keeping the powder dry but looking to grow our portfolio while we see opportunities," Mr Thomson said. "As the recession drag on, there are some very good companies which may become available to us."

He cautioned, however: "There is still an awful lot of bad news to come." Rugby will probably wait therefore, until the 1992 results season is over, along with the inevitable one-off losses that will have to be reported.

Tempus, page 18

Chief executive resigns at Galerias

From EDWARD OWEN
IN MADRID

MICHAEL BABCOCK, the chief executive officer of Galerias Preciosas, Spain's second-largest department store chain, resigned yesterday. The company is being sold by KPMG Peat Marwick, acting as receivers for Mountleigh Group. Mountleigh bought the troubled chain in December 1987.

Mr Babcock, 49, an American, is returning to the United States. He has appointed Jaime Uya, who was director general of buying and has been with the company for 36 years, as the interim chief executive.

Mr Babcock joined Galerias, which has 29 Spanish outlets, in February 1991 and used his extensive experience in American retailing to start modernising the stores that did not have computerised stock control or automatic checkouts.

Since he took over, Galerias has been offering better displays of better quality goods, mainly fashions, in a departure

from Mountleigh's initial policy of selling cheap items to get quick cash.

But the fall of Mountleigh on May 25 frustrated all his efforts to turn around the fortunes of Galerias, which has had five owners in a decade and has not made a profit since 1976. For the past few months the directors have not even been able to implement vital advertising campaigns. At one stage, Mr Babcock did not discount that he was linked to a planned buyout with Nelson Peltz and Peter May, former directors of Mountleigh, and he said then that that receivership was the best thing that could have happened to Galerias.

Now Peat Marwick says that it has had only four bids for Galerias. One involves Parques Urbanos through the consultant Aserinvest, with additional interest from Zara, a successful Spanish retail chain of cheap clothes, which says it will only act after seeing the special audit for the Galerias sale being conducted by Price Waterhouse. Another bid is from at least three of Galerias's Spanish

directors who are believed to be backed by the Caja de Madrid savings bank and one of two other offers has allegedly come from Hong Kong.

In a terse note, Mr Babcock said yesterday: "We have brought Galerias successfully through the autumn and winter merchandising programmes and have secured a sound financial operating base for the organisation through to next spring."

"Negotiations with the various parties bidding to purchase Galerias are now well advanced and I believe this is an appropriate time for me to step aside. I am delighted that Jaime Uya will now lead the Galerias management team."

Mountleigh's creditors have been hoping the sale of Galerias, the "jewel" of Mountleigh's assets, will bring in 54,000 million pesetas (£300 million), but at least one leading group is not bidding because of the attitude of unions representing the 7,500 employees. And the prime real estate sites in Spanish cities are losing value as the recession bites.



Sophistication: Gert van Laar, left, and Bo Goranson, managing director

Intrum collects higher profit

ALL OF Europe is in recession,

according to the head of Europe's leading debt collection agency. Gert van Laar, the chief executive of Intrum Justitia, said the deteriorating economy was making it increasingly difficult to gather overdue debts (Neil Bennett writes).

He said: "Europe is in a deep recession. Companies are becoming insolvent or have run out of cash and the ability of many consumers to repay their debts is becoming limited in spite of our sophisticated methods of collection."

Intrum, however, increased pre-tax profits 33 per cent to £6.1 million in the first half of the year as its collection operations continued to grow in Britain and on the continent. The half-year dividend is being raised 25 per cent to 1p.

At the end of June, Intrum was managing a £1.2 billion book of debts waiting for collection, up 19 per cent

from December. Mr van Laar said the recession was reducing the group's success rate in recovering funds and increasing handling times, because debtors were asking for more time to repay.

The group expects these pressures to cut second-half growth.

The group's new French subsidiary performed well, and Intrum is planning to expand into Spain this winter either alone or in a joint venture.

The report also shows that companies are losing 2p to 60p.

Sums in interest by allowing their banks to take up to three days before crediting their accounts with transferred payments. Barclays puts the letter "U" by items that will take several days to clear. National Westminster puts just the symbol "U". The banks do not explain these to customers.

The Bank Report, by Hunter Clark Associates, also states that banks use a series of unexplained symbols on statements that show how many days they take before they credit funds to customers' accounts.

Hunter Clark surveyed Britain's 1,000 largest companies, local authorities and other bodies, such as NHS trust hospitals. The report shows a high degree of apathy in large groups about the cost of their banking arrangements.

Many companies still pay a single flat rate for their services. The report's researchers interviewed one business that pays £80,000 a year, and was unable to say what services it used.

Businesses and councils are also lax about the interest they receive on their current accounts. The report highlights the wide range of interest rates paid, from 1 per cent below the base rate to only 1 per cent.

Ian Clark, the report's author, said companies were extremely reluctant to negotiate with their banks. "There seems to be a blind spot among financial directors about their bank charges.

"There are countless stories in the press where small companies have apparently been taken advantage of. We assumed that banks would not take advantage of large companies but they do. Banks are there to make money and if they can get a good deal from a customer they will," he said.

The report, however, dismisses any suggestion that banks are operating a cartel. On the contrary, it highlights wide differences between bank charges. One company in the survey received tenders from four banks for basic deposit services. The costs ranged from £15,000 to £28,000 a year. Hunter Clark recommends that companies seek for bank services like any other contract to get the best terms.

The report also shows that companies are losing 2p to 60p.

Steel war sends ASW into deficit

By OUR CITY STAFF

THE price war ravaging the European steel industry has sent ASW Holdings, the Cardiff steel and wire group, into the red for the first time since it made its 1988 stock market debut.

A loss before tax of £2.1 million for the half year to end-June contrasts with a profit of £8.1 million last year, and the dividend has been cut from 4.5p to 3.0p. Since 1990, margins have fallen by £30 a tonne, or 15 per cent.

Paul Rich, the managing director, said:

"We are getting indications that people are in pain — a lot of them are losing cash heavily in Europe," Mr Rich said. "People are going to have to realise that action needs to be taken to move margins up. But the timing on that is rather difficult to predict."

In the core steel business, volumes were maintained in flat markets and the division remains profitable at the operating level, despite the European price war. Maintained investment on the construction products side contributed to the £1 million operating loss for the group as a whole, against a £7.2 million profit last time. The shares eased 2p to 60p.

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TEMPUS

Shrewd Rugby builds earnings

RUGBY Group was the first of the big building materials manufacturers to batton down the hatches and hold dividend levels ahead of the unprecedented recession in construction. That decision, taken early in 1990, was a shrewd one.

Yesterday's maintained dividend of 2.35p, something of a *rara avis* in this year's half-way reporting season for building firms, is covered 2.4 times by earnings and Rugby continues to generate cash at an enviable rate.

Pre-tax profits, ahead from £27.4 million to £30.2 million, reflect recovery in America and Australia and higher interest earnings, rather than any resurgence in British markets. The American joinery business returned to profit after losses last time (orders dried up during the Gulf confrontation), and first-half sales in cash terms, disregarding the effect of the weaker dollar, were up 40 per cent.

The recovery in Australia was less dramatic, but the European joinery business benefited from a concentration on higher-margin products such as windows and kitchen fittings. The core cement operation in Britain, in a market dominated by just three firms, held its own despite slight downward pressure on prices.

Cash balances stood at £23 million at the end of June, unchanged since the financial year-end, despite the outlay of £15 million on part of the Ward Group, bought from the receivers. That cash pile rose to £30 million by the end of August. Further acquisitions are in prospect once the company judges the industry's nadir has been reached.

Rugby's shares, despite the company's resilience, have been dragged down along with the rest of the sector. Graham Foster, at Nomura Research Institute, is looking for £57.5 million pre-tax profits this year, although he says this is a cautious view. The shares therefore sell on 12.8 times' earnings and a 5.1 per cent yield.

A little need to chase at this level, but they remain a hold and should be bought on any further weakness.



Forced to find millions: Howard Phillips, chief executive of Perkins Foods

Perkins Foods

PERKINS Foods may have avoided some of the banana skins that Albert Fisher slipped on, but it has choked on the same glut of fresh fruit and vegetables that the frost-free winter produced. It has also run into the stock market's sudden distaste for acquisitive companies with earn-out commitments.

Its share price has plummeted by 60 per cent since the beginning of the year, a statistic that a 4 per cent increase in the interim pre-tax

figure, to £10.9 million, did nothing to improve.

The flat result bore out some of the market's fears, as £6 million of deferred consideration in respect of earlier acquisitions ate into what was an extremely healthy 23 per cent increase in operating profits, given the collapse in apple and pear prices.

Perkins, with £3.5 million of capital expenditure to finance this year, must find £8 million to fund its earn-out promises next year, and Howard Phillips, chief executive, expects to invest a further £4 million in the business, leav-

ing it at best cash-neutral for the second year running.

That would seem to rule out acquisitions for the foreseeable future, leaving the group dependent on organic growth.

Perkins will do well to match last year's £24.3 million this year. If it does, it will produce earnings of perhaps 11.7p and p/e of less than six at 62p. A return to last January's 15p looks a long way off.

British Vita

When a well managed company such as British Vita feels

the pinch, you can tell how

tough the recession is becoming. Yesterday, shares in Britain's largest polyurethane foams group fell 6p to 218p because of disappointment at a first-half rise in pre-tax profits from £24.2 million to £26.8 million.

Operating profits slipped slightly from £24.7 million to £24.6 million, reflecting margin pressures and losses in Spain. The improvement arose from the share in profits of associates rising from £1.8 million to £3 million and a fall in interest charges from £2.4 million to £749,000, thanks to the £73 million of rights issue cash which came in during March.

Vita has avoided dilution by a whisker, with earnings per share up 0.2p to 7.9p. At yesterday's price, the shares are almost back to the 212p shareholders paid in the one-for-five cash call.

At the half-year end, British Vita's balance sheet had net cash of £40 million, against net borrowings of £34 million, or 20 per cent gearing, at the year-end. Before accounting for the rights issue, British Vita was cash neutral, despite having to wait longer for trade debts. Capital investment, which the Vita management believes is the secret of its success, clocked up £14 million.

The three acquisitions that Vita had its eye on in March have so far not come to fruition but there are still hopes for two of them. British Vita is believed to have its eyes on no fewer than 12 acquisition possibilities, most of them in Europe, but is in no rush.

Analysts have reduced forecasts for the full year from as high as £58 million to about £55 million. The best guess is £57 million, or 16.53p of earnings, putting the shares on a multiple of 13.2. Following the rise in the half-year dividend from 3.34p to 3.50p yesterday, a further increase at the full year is possible.

Even British Vita will have to fight hard to hold on to market share and profit margins in the next 12 to 18 months. But shares in such a well managed company should react well to any signs of economic recovery. Hold.

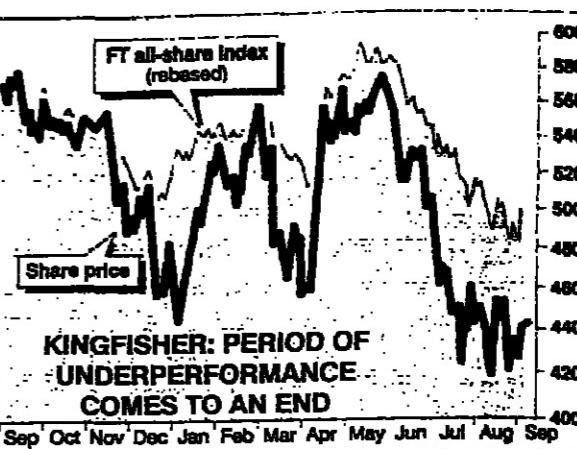
THE building sector is facing up to another tough week on the stock market with a steady stream of trading statements expected to give a clearer insight into the depth of the slump within the industry.

One indication of how difficult trading conditions have become was reflected by the housing starts for July issued yesterday. These showed the number of houses started fell 2,000 on the corresponding period last year and 6 per cent on the year to July, so far.

Kleinwort Benson, the securities house, added to the gloom by downgrading its forecast for Heathrow, the building products group, after a visit to the company. It has cut its estimate for the current year by £16 million to £44 million and for 1993 by £20 million to £48 million. Other analysts will be talking to the company over the next few days and are also expected to reduce their numbers.

Brokers are now anxiously awaiting trading news from a number of leading companies starting today with George Wimpey, 2p easier at 77p, followed tomorrow by Taylor Woodrow, unchanged at 50p, and Wilson Conolly, steady at 104p. Other companies reporting within the next few days include Blue Circle Industries, down 5p at 155p, Amec, 4p stronger at 72p, Spring Ram, 3p lower at 115p and Costain, 1p better at 26p. In most cases the pattern is expected to be the same with profits falling and companies struggling to maintain the dividend. It is unlikely to be the sort of backdrop to encourage investors. Rugby Group was one of the few companies to bring cheer to the sector after a rise of almost £3 million in half year pre-tax profit to £30.2 million. The shares responded with a rise of 9p to 169p.

Fisons lost an early lead to end 1p lighter at 174p before half-year figures due out later today. These are expected to



KINGFISHER: PERIOD OF UNDERPERFORMANCE COMES TO AN END

Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep

Share price
Source: Datastream

The group's ferry operations should produce a bigger contribution but there are worries about the effects of recession on its building and property interests.

Eurotunnel fell 15p to 365p with the Warrants 12p cheaper at 209p despite denials that it now faced a deadline to settle a dispute with Transmanche Link, the project's consortium of contractors.

On Friday, Sir Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel's chief executive, announced an agreement with TM1 over the long-running payment dispute would be reached within weeks. The contractors have been claiming they are owed more than £1 billion in cost over-runs on the project.

Kingfisher, the Woolworth, Comet and B&Q retailer, jumped 7p to 441p helped by a buy recommendation from County NatWest, the broker, which is urging clients to switch out of W.H. Smith 'A', down 13p at 402p after going ex-dividend.

County says half-year figures, expected soon, should make pleasant reading. It is forecasting pre-tax profits of £62 million against £62.5 million for the corresponding period. This would be seen as a credible performance against a depressed economic backdrop. Kingfisher shares have underperformed by 10 per cent since March. County sees this as a useful trading opportunity. Smith on the other hand, has outperformed the market by 10 per cent and seems to have run its course for the time being, having just gone ex-dividend.

MICHAEL CLARK

WORLD BUSINESS

Profit-takers stem Nikkei rally

TOKYO — Stocks closed easier after losing early gains on profit-taking and index-linked selling. Many investors were reluctant to sell, but more edged to the sidelines on a lack of incentives to keep on buying after the recent rallies, brokers said. The Nikkei index fell 115.12 points or 0.62 per cent to 18,440.18, with an estimated 380 million shares traded.

© Sydney — The All-Industries index closed 20.9 points lower at 2,348.3, pres-

sured by a weaker banking sector and a 24 cent fall by News Corp to \$24.60.

□ Frankfurt — German shares drifted down from their early highs in an unspired trading session with little equity-related news around to give the market much direction. The 30-share Dax index closed just 4.13 points up from Friday at 1,540.63, about five points off its high.

□ Hong Kong — Stocks fell from a slightly firmer opening

Reuter

American stock markets were closed yesterday for Labour Day.

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PRICES marked time despite the failure of attempts by the European finance ministers to persuade Germany to cut interest rates over the weekend. But brokers expressed satisfaction with the market's performance. It closed with gains of a few ticks at the longer end. Most drew strength from Germany's indication that the next move in interest rates will be down.

Simon Briscoe, economist with stockbroker Greenwell Montagu, said: "It was an encouraging performance with the market clearly intent on holding on to last week's gains in the wake of the government's measures to protect the pound and the rise in Italian interest rates".

On the futures market, the Long Gilt rose four ticks to finish the session at 977/8% in low volume. In Longs, Treasury 9 per cent 2008 advanced seven ticks to £100%.

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PRICES

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COMMENT

Dealers decline a cure at Bath

Once foreign exchange dealers have the bit between their teeth, it takes more than common sense to rein in the galloping hoooves. Market reaction to the latest weekend attempt to shore up the European exchange-rate mechanism has been particularly grudging so far. The lira levitated from its floor, but not by much, and sterling struggled to sustain a value of DM2.80. Dealers are rightly suspicious of ringing declarations, which often ring hollow, but the ERM defence mounted over the past week has not simply been a chorus of empty words. Britain has pledged itself to buy £7.25 billion of sterling on the foreign exchanges by the end of the financial year. Italy has raised interest rates by an agonising amount, offering a 5 point interest rate premium. The weekend meeting at Bath may not have been a meeting of minds but Helmut Schlesinger did say he would not raise interest rates unless Germany's circumstances worsened, which is an extraordinary commitment by Bundesbank standards.

ERM parities will not be changed for months ahead. None of this rules out revaluations or devaluations in the medium to long term, but that is way beyond the normal horizon of the foreign exchanges. Within the ERM, movements have clearly overshot. Perhaps traders were stalling in somewhat artificial quiet of America's Labour Day or they are simply unwilling to review positions ahead of the French Maastricht vote on September 20.

There is a third explanation. The tension between the mark and the dollar has worsened since American interest rates took another downward turn last week. With the main policy makers pushing in opposite directions and most of the world in recession, something has to give. In such circumstances, it is hard for those who make currency trading decisions to accept a return to a normality that does not make economic sense.

Still talking

Dealines at Eurotunnel have that moveable quality made famous by Gatt negotiations and, to some extent, for the same reason. Having moved towards a deadline at the beginning of September, Eurotunnel now seems reasonably relaxed about continuing talks over the endless disputes with its contractors over burgeoning costs until nearer the time it needs to draw more money from the banks, which might not be until the end of the month or beyond. The main agent banks are not so sanguine. They are anxious for the tunnel developers to come to a final deal with Transmanche Link, the consortium contractor, over excess payment claims. Otherwise, they fear, they may not be able to persuade many less committed banks to keep waiving conditions on the revised loan agreement and keep cash flowing to finish the project.

For Eurotunnel shareholders and for TML, however, there is much to be said, as in all such negotiations, for talking tough until the very last moment. The two sides are no longer far apart but the final gap is the hardest to bridge. It would have been easy for Eurotunnel to capitulate but that would hardly be in the banks' interest if it increased the cost further and therefore increased the risk on their loans. TML may, indeed, be reluctant to take the convertible loans the banks are anxious to include in the deal to minimise their cash input, while Eurotunnel cannot afford to give away too much of its equity to TML at this late stage.

This latest in the series of "crises" is another reminder of the basic flaws in the structure of the enterprise, which built in conflicts of interest. This was no way to run a railway tunnel and is no way for the public to be involved in any such enterprise in future.

Stability in Moscow would better serve the leading economies than a people tired of waiting for good times, writes Colin Narbrough

RUSSIAN history is littered with heroic struggles against all the odds. As the long-suffering country braces itself for yet another winter of economic misery, it is no wonder that tens of thousands of Russians found the time on Sunday to visit Borodino to mark the 180th anniversary of imperial Russia's mighty battle with the invading Napoleon.

With precious little to celebrate in present conditions, the Russians, like many other peoples of the former Soviet empire, are likely to increasingly seek comfort in triumphs from the past. Looking back beyond the decades of Soviet dominance in search of continuity is no bad thing as such. The return to ethnic conflicts of bygone ages, as witnessed most recently in the Balkans, is hardly likely to contribute to the rapid economic progress so needed.

The putsch of August 1991 may be comfortably more than a year behind us, but the continued deterioration in economic and social conditions must increase the risk that the Russians could still be converted to support would-be national saviours of a much more inward-looking, authoritarian ilk than the leadership offered by President Boris Yeltsin. The tone adopted by the army newspaper, *Krasnaya Svedza*, about the Borodino anniversary could give cause for concern. Obviously, it called on all Russians to protect the fatherland today as their ancestors did in 1812, when it cost General Kutuzov's army the loss of 50,000 men to halt the French advance. But the do-or-die discipline of the old order — imperial and Soviet — has yielded to a large extent in the face of *perestroika* and *glasnost*. If the military class were to seek power, they would probably find themselves forced to resort to old-fashioned methods to try to lift the economy.

The drastic decline of the economy continues this year's grain harvest is again below forecast, and exports, including hard currency-earning oil, are still falling steeply. The efficacy of the cures offered by the West are understandably being questioned by the Russian public and political classes. Despite the determined efforts of Yegor Gaidar, the acting prime minister and devoted advocate of free-market reform, the patient does not appear to be responding.

Indeed, the question is whether the backsiding that the Russian government has allowed this year from the solemn reform commitments made to the International Monetary Fund and the Group of Seven leading industrial economies last spring



Pointing back at the West: Boris Yeltsin needs outside support to produce results in his reform plan

could turn into full policy retreat into bad old ways. The IMF does not appear to think so. Richard Erb, the IMF deputy director, made clear during a recent visit to Moscow that Russia has plenty of problems to resolve, but that he was impressed with the position adopted by the Russian authorities. He said: "It is clear to the central bank and the government that there was no return; that this is a process that is under way and that it must continue."

His remarks were doubtless intended to assuage fears in the West that the policy rift that has emerged this year in Moscow could cost the Russian government's credibility dear. While Mr Gaidar wanted to steer steadily to meet the tough conditions set by the IMF, Victor Gerashchenko, the head of the central bank, took a more tolerant stance over industry's demands for more credit. Having boldly launched its IMF-approved reform pro-

gramme in January by liberating most prices and pledging to sell state enterprises, the government appeared during the summer to have given in to demands from domestic industry, which needed new loans to settle unpaid bills and wages.

The IMF has disbursed only \$1 billion of the \$24 billion aid package for Russia agreed this spring. But the IMF requires the Russians to constrain the budget deficit to no more than 5 per cent of the gross domestic product, and bring monthly inflation down to single digits in the second half of this year.

Official figures showed that consumer prices rose by a more modest 7.5 per cent in July. This helped dispel widely held fears that Russia was about to be overwhelmed by hyperinflation. Furthermore, IMF officials are convinced that both Mr Gaidar and Mr Gerashchenko recog-

nise that boosting credit and government spending is not the way to establish conditions for growth. Concern persists about the backsiders and the potential of the unrefined to exert influence over economic policy. Vladimir Shumeikha, the deputy prime minister who only entered the cabinet in June, has come out publicly in favour of the state protecting key sectors of industry to prevent the continued fall in output. His view, which reflects that of the conservative industrial lobby, is simply that Russia "cannot wait for the market to regulate all processes". The industrial lobby also appears to have blocked plans to free energy prices this year. Critics, at home and abroad, of Mr Yeltsin's chosen route for economic reform have looked to the east for alternative paths to salvation. Even with an authoritarian communist government, neighbouring China has started to achieve growth rates that alarm officials in Peking. The

Chinese government has had to apply the economic brakes aggressively in the past to quell inflationary pressures. China grew 12 per cent in the first half of this year.

The Japanese government, which has made clear that it will not provide fresh aid to Russia until the sovereignty issue of the Kurile islands is resolved, has also suggested that the free-market remedies being pressed on Russia might be inappropriate. Tokyo wants the tiny islands, seized by the Soviet army in the dying days of the second world war, to be returned. Until then, Japan, the only major economy for the foreseeable future likely to be able to make resources available on the scale Russia needs, will not entertain Moscow's pleas. While the wrangling over remote islands continues, Japanese officials have, however, suggested that Russia would be better advised to pursue a path to economic transformation in which state corporations, as national champions, would play a key role. Protected industries would have time to come up to speed before being exposed to market forces.

Rescheduling the former Soviet Union's \$74 billion debt to western governments and commercial creditors should be decided at a meeting of the "Club of Paris" officials in mid-September. A ten-year deal is expected that will cover principal and interest payments for debt falling due by the end of next year. Russia has taken on responsibility for 61 per cent of Soviet debt. The debt problem and collapsing economy have slowed the flow of funds to Russia to a dribble. Prior Aven, Russian minister for external economic relations, began talks last week in Paris with representatives of the 17 Western member states and organisations in the club to put back the date for repayments. Mr Aven has said Russia could only afford to repay \$2 billion of the \$7.2 billion due this year.

At the meeting of European Community finance ministers and central bankers in Bath at the weekend, the tensions in the foreign exchange market led to the virtual exclusion of all other topics. The troubles of the former Soviet Union were left unaddressed.

The British government has declared that it planned to make freer trade with eastern Europe a main objective for its presidency of the European Community. Surely, that must be a goal for Germany and others too. The almost total collapse of former East Germany's markets in the Soviet bloc lay at the core of the German's difficulties in force-marching its eastern *länder* to take-off. Instead of turning away from Russia and its former dominions, the West would do well to marshall ample resources to foster economic stability and renewal in the region. Far better for European and world growth to have a prospering Russia than a country whose people might tire of waiting for better times.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY**Hough gives up the shopping list**

AS THE retail sector reporting season gets under way, BZW will find its research team badly depleted, after the departure of Louise Hough — pronounced "huff" — who resigned last week. It means Brian Morris, her former boss, will be left to tackle the season single-handed. Meanwhile Hough, after a brief break in Katmandu, will, on October 19, resurface at Warburg, but not as part of the retail team. Hough, who had been with BZW for five years, is switching to conglomerates instead. In so doing she replaces Simon Hayes who transferred to Warburg's Tokyo office as head of research ten months ago. "We have been quite choosy. We wanted someone who would fit in our team, and was capable of doing research and marketing as well," says new boss Mike Murphy, head of the conglomerates team and proud owner of a hunter chaser called *Which Way Now*. "Louise said she wanted a new challenge." Warburg's conglomerates team is rated second for conglomerates, first for business services, third for other business materials and fifth for paper and packaging. "She should fit in well," Murphy continued. "She does not go racing and does not like golf, so at least there will now be somebody here during the summer months."

Tora's home win

JOHN Tallent, the last senior partner of W N Middleton, a constituent firm of Greig Mid-



dleton or City team to challenge Sudbury in a friendly match. "I used to be a prop forward but I haven't played for 25 years," he says.

Hus frau

THERE may be fewer high jinks on the foreign desk at brokers Williams de Broe in future after the arrival yesterday of Myra van Hus, one of the highest-profile Euro equity saleswomen. She joins the team of Martin Smith, whose capers with colleagues on trains in search of night clubs in Colchester have been well documented in the City Diary. Van Hus, 43, caused something of a stir in 1986 when she and fellow directors quit Quilter Goodison to start Ark Securities. Described as "poised" and "striking" she comes across as notably more sober than her new colleagues but seems unperturbed by their antics. "I read the piece on her," she says. Most recently, Van Hus spent a "not entirely happy" two years at Daiwa. She quit in December and has spent the last six months drumming up sponsorship for the 1994 Edinburgh congress of the European Federation of Financial Analysts Societies, an association for investment analysts. Van Hus, on its executive board, will be chairman throughout the next congress.

SHARES in hotel group Forte are trading at about half their year's high at 263p. City wits are predicting the company will soon be forced to change its name again — to Twenty.

CAROL LEONARD

Growing doubts about shoppers' ability to buy British

From Mr J. Knox Sir, I read with sadness Baroness Faithfull's letter (August 31) regarding her inability to buy British and then in the same edition I read Douglas McWilliams' article, which stated that the CBI considered that British industry would be in the vanguard of recovery when it came. Having recently closed my company, which manufactured exactly the type of goods Baroness Faithfull wishes to buy and knowing that many items that we used to manufacture exclusively in the UK will never be made again, for a variety of reasons, I have grave doubts about

either the Baroness or Mr McWilliams being satisfied in their quest. I am sad because we are now in the same sad predicament as the US, which, aided by a dollar which is very cheap in pound terms, should be flooding the British market with cheap desirable imports. Can the Baroness buy these American goods or find US products in the shops of North Wales or at her hairdresser? I doubt it because they don't make them and neither do we. Yours faithfully,

JOHN KNOX,
Hareville House,
Kettlesey Bottom,
Harrogate, North Yorkshire.

Misplaced sympathy for high street banks

From Mr M.Q. Boutwood Sir, I believe your statements in your article headed "Customers called to account" (Comment September 2) are seriously misleading. Inference is heavy that bank account customers receive everything free. What do banks do with customers' money? Not hide it in a strongroom but no doubt use it to earn interest on money markets and lend it to those from whom it was

borrowed. You may have sympathy for the banks in their current self-induced position but I believe it is wrong for you to suggest that account holders in credit should have increased charges imposed and pay the banks more for the benefit of lending the bank their money.

Yours faithfully,
M.Q. BOUTWOOD,
California Lane,
Bushey Heath, Herts.

cent earn income for the bank. An equally important question is whether the cost of running the network cannot be reduced by increased efficiency to a level commensurate with that income.

Is it really efficient, for example, for a bank to maintain two or even three branches within a 100 yards radius, as is the case to my knowledge in places in central London?

As for concern about cross-

Out of touch with the man in the street over Taurus

From Mr G.F. Collie Sir, As a retired professional man with a substantial number of quoted Stock Exchange investments, I admit to being prejudiced against the introduction of Taurus.

I was so glad to see Sir Andrew Hugh Smith's article (September 2) because I felt sure that my fears would be dispelled. Sadly they were not.

Sir Andrew says that once Taurus is in place it will match the banking industry in terms of cost and simplicity. Sir Andrew is sadly out of touch with the man in the street; if he believes that, from his point of view, modern banking is cheaper and simpler than it was a quarter of a century ago.

Under Taurus, with the end of

share certificates we are to receive a printout once a year showing our holding in every company that has joined Taurus.

Thus, instead of a once and for all share certificate, every year I shall have to check some 50 bits of difficult-to-read printouts in case of the inevitable computer error.

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Portfolio

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No	Company	Group	Gains or losses
1	Northern Elec	Electricity	
2	Ntn Fonds	Funds	
3	Br Airways	Transport	
4	Smith David	Paper, Print	
5	EMAP	Newspaper, Pub	
6	Guinness	Breweries	
7	Durban	Mining	
8	Southern Elec	Electricity	
9	Gerrard Nis	Banks, Disc	
10	Clarendon Gs	Textiles	
11	St Ives Gp	Paper, Print	
12	Kwib-Fit	Motors, Air	
13	St Helena	Mining	
14	Annie	Building, Rds	
15	Whosoe	Industrial	
16	Seabourn	Electricity	
17	Smithline Us	Industrial	
18	London Elec	Electricity	
19	LASMO	Oil & Gas	
20	Hewitt (J)	Industrial	
21	Hydro-Elec	Electricity	
22	Trade Indemny	Insurance	
23	Harmony	Mining	
24	Newfoundland	Water	
25	Kingfisher	Drugs, Sys	
26	Reuter	Industrial	
27	Debs	Electrical	
28	Caird Gp	Chem., Plas	
29	Hillside	Foods	
30	Ladbrokes	Horse, Cat	
31	BAT	Tobaccos	
32	Welsh Water	Water	
33	Bass	Breweries	
34	North West	Water	
35	PWS	Insurance	
36	Lloyds	Banks, Disc	
37	Burnham Const	Oil, Gas	
38	South West	Water	
39	BIN Gp	Industrial	
40	Huanhui Tel	Industrial	
41	Redland	Building, Rds	
42	Cable Wireless	Electrical	
43	Sax & New	Breweries	
44	Rank Org	Industrial	

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Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Total		
1902	High	Low	Company	Price	%	Net Yld	%	P/E

Two readers shared yesterday's £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize. Mrs J Eyre, of Rockbourne, Hampshire, and Mr R Banks, of Ryde, Isle of Wight, each receive £1,000.

1902	High	Low	Company	Price	%	Net	Yld	%	P/E

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

117	Abbey Nat	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
118	Barclays	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
119	Barclays Amex	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
120	Barclays Corp	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
121	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
122	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
123	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
124	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
125	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
126	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
127	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
128	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
129	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
130	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
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171	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
172	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
173	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
174	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
175	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10	12	10	12
176	Barclays Inv	267	103	12	82	10			

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

**BODDLE
HATFIELD**

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Boddle Hatfield is a long established, forward thinking commercial practice. Following a recent reorganisation, the firm's Litigation Department is expanding.

With a rapidly increasing caseload, the need has been identified for a senior assistant at the 5-8 year level who will be able to take on a substantial existing workload which includes insolvency, fraud, professional indemnity, international and other commercial disputes and also to supervise more junior assistants.

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For further information in complete confidence please contact Stephen Ralph at Boddle Hatfield on 071-629 7411. Alternatively contact our Consultant, Jonathan Brenner, on 071-377 0510 (081-332 0733 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential Fax 071-247 5174.



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These are propitious times for the sole practitioner seeking to make a move. Many larger firms which expanded in the late 1980s now find themselves with spare office accommodation. They are naturally keen to bring in new equity partners with a practice of their own (even a relatively small one), and are willing to offer them favourable terms.

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Michael Chambers

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Well-known and successful medium-sized firm in central London, with flourishing co-commercial, property, and litigation practice, would welcome additional specialist team.

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Insurance: City

Well-known insurance litigation firm seeks 2-3 yrs qual litigator for top quality work.

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Intellectual Property: City

Expanding niche IP firm comprising lawyers and private investigators seeks senior litigator for IP lit with patent bias. Strong international element.

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Medium-sized firm seeks senior solicitor with background in the leisure industry to join expanding multi-disciplinary group.

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Leading firm seeks sol, c 3 yrs qual, for personal tax and overseas/offshore trusts.

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Comshare Limited is an international company which develops and markets business management software. By specialising in executive information systems, Comshare has become the market leader in this field. With 36 offices worldwide, the international headquarters in London now have a vacancy for a Legal Director.

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The internal legal officer post would suit a young lawyer who would join a team of legal officers assisting the Ombudsman to investigate and resolve complaints relating to building societies. Salary, dependent on qualifications and experience, will be in the region of £23,500.

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If you are interested please apply in writing with a CV to the Registrar to the Council, The Office of the Building Societies Ombudsman, 35/37 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1X 7AW

LONDON

COMPANY PARTNER £160-150,000

Medium/large City practice with strong corporate & banking base seeks further company/commercial partner with client portfolio attracted by prospect of joining profitable firm. Innovative equity structure.

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Four partner banking unit at medium sized City practice with strong international profile seeks experienced 2 year qualified assistant for range of retailing, mainstream banking and capital markets work. Excellent prospects in department poised for substantial future growth.

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London office of high profile international practice seeks 2-4 year qualified assistant solicitor with broad company/commercial background preferably gained at large City firm. Outstanding mix of multinational corporate clients. Good prospects for overseas secondment.

RETAIL PARTNER c.£70,000

Small Holborn practice with strong property unit seeks partner with minimum £100,000 client following. Unit continues to attract new instructions in current climate. Excellent management structure.

EMPLOYMENT To £60,000

Excellent opportunity to join renowned employment law team in fast expanding City practice at partner designate level. Candidate needs City or equivalent contentious and non-contentious experience acting for companies and senior executives. Practice development skills a must.

PROPERTY LIT To £40,000

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Well known South East based finance house seeks lawyer with at least 2 years' experience for challenging role combining company/commercial, financial services and general compliance work. Will advise on institutional products, fund management and general product development. Excellent training offered.

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For further information in relation to these or the many other vacancies currently registered with us, please contact: Jonathan Brenner or Jonathan Macrae (both solicitors) on 071-377 0510 (071-226 1558 evenings/weekends) or write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential Fax 071-247 5174.

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Evenings & Weekends

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Our client is a major international firm of Chartered Accountants and Management Consultants with a network of offices in over 100 countries worldwide covering all aspects of tax advice in each country.

Heading up the rapidly growing tax department, this position entails liaison internally and externally with tax related personnel throughout their international network in order to develop tax based products which will be set up and administered by the Isle of Man office.

Suitable individuals will be qualified accountants or lawyers, based in the U.K. or Continental Europe. The firm's expertise predominantly lies in estate planning and the position is therefore primarily personal tax orientated. As the Island does not have tax treaties the ability to undertake corporate tax work is limited, although corporate tax specialists with some personal tax expertise would be actively considered. The position will entail c. 6 weeks travel per annum, and a second European language would be a distinct advantage.

This is a senior level appointment with excellent potential for progression to partner level for those individuals able to demonstrate the necessary combination of marketing, technical and interpersonal skills.

Company Secretary

City : Salary from £mid 30's + Car + Banking Benefits

Our client is a major financial services group which has a strong base in Europe and comprehensive coverage in the world's main financial markets.

The Company Secretary's Department now wishes to appoint a confident professional with strong technical company secretarial skills. Reporting to the Group Company Secretary, you will take responsibility for a number of subsidiary boards and will provide support at main board level. The office is responsible for a range of activities which include the management of group insurances, various share schemes and charitable donations, plus liaison with registrars, Stock Exchange and other regulatory bodies. Your ability to provide advice and information to senior Group management will be an important element of your responsibilities.

Preferably aged 35 to 40, and degree educated, you will be a Chartered Secretary, lawyer or accountant with several years post qualification pic holding company experience. You should be able to work independently but will be comfortable both receiving and providing direction within a pressurised professional team. Good interpersonal skills and a well developed written style will be essential to your success in this position. Financial services sector experience is not important.

A competitive salary is offered together with bonus, mortgage subsidy, car and generous supporting benefits package.

Please write - in confidence - with details of your current or most recent package and career to date, to Sue Matheson, at MSL Company Secretary, 32 Aybrook Street, London W1M 3JL.

MSL Company Secretary

SPESIALISTS IN LEGAL AND COMPANY SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS

LONDON

Banking £50,000-£100,000

Prestigious medium sized city firm seeks a Solicitor 2-5 years' PQE to join their thriving practice handling broad range of complicated banking transactions. A position at Salaried Partner level can also be accommodated. Ref: 355/KM.

Company Commercial £50,000

Progressive city practice with enviable client base seeks Solicitor 2-4 years' PQE to handle a mixture of corporate work including takeovers, yellow book and venture capital. Excellent remuneration and prospects. Ref: 356/KM.

Contentious Insolvency £36,000-£150,000

Leading insolvency practice with excellent client base seeks Solicitor with 2 years' PQE to handle wide insolvency with litigations emphasis. Also position for a Salaried Partner exists. Ref: 357/KM.

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Know-How Officer £45,000
Litigation Co-ordinator required by renowned city firm to undertake non fee-earning role dealing with precedents and all departmental know-how. Ideal candidate will have at least 3 years' PQE. Ref: 359/MS.

Insurance Litigation £41,000</h

LAW TIMES

• LAW REPORT
LIFE & TIMES 9

Legal practitioners remain unpopular because of their high costs and tricky ways.

Now, says James D. Zirin, they are being abused in the US presidential campaign

US civil war on 'sharp' lawyers

The Republican platform this year has declared war on the American lawyer. This is nothing new. Lawyers have always been unpopular figures. Hamlet in the graveyard held up the "skull of a lawyer" and asked Horatio, "where be his quiddities now, his qualities, his cases, his tenures and his tricks?" Carl Sandburg wondered "why a hearse horse suckers hauling a lawyer's bones". And another Shakespearean character, Dick the Butcher, drunkenly proclaimed in *Henry VI Part 2*: the "first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers". But this year, the heat is really on.

In his Houston acceptance speech, President Bush depicted Bill Clinton as the candidate of "sharp lawyers" in "tasseled loafers" who are "running wild" with malpractice suits and large jury verdicts. He proposed no specific remedy for the problem unless it was a call for American lawyers to shed their tassels, much as barristers may shed their wigs.

This attitude has become vintage Bush policy. More than two years ago, Martin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, blasted lawyers bringing malpractice cases who "certainly deserve all the criticism they can get".

Fitzwater claimed that disdain for lawyers are the "universally held feelings by everyone who has dealt with the legal establishment". Vice President Quayle has become the Republican point man on the issue. As head of the president's competitive ness council, he charges that excessive litigation has inflated insurance premiums and thus the cost of goods and services. Accordingly, American output loses its competitiveness in foreign markets. Blame it all on the lawyers.

In America, tort reform is not really the province of the federal government. The legal system applicable to malpractice and personal injury suits is largely regulated by state legislatures and local bar associations. Thus, it is astounding that the role of lawyers should become an issue in a presidential election. But presidential candidates tend to talk about their policies in global themes more than local specifics.

Many features of the American legal system deserve re-

examination. Unlike the English model, lawyers in the US may take cases, including personal injury cases, on a contingent fee basis.

If the plaintiff loses, he owes nothing to his lawyer, and the defendant must bear his own legal costs. If the case is brought, the plaintiff may conduct time-consuming and expensive depositions. If the case is tried, there is a right to a trial by jury, even in commercial cases with complex factual patterns.

Juries may bring in large verdicts that bear little or no relationship to real out-of-pocket loss. And judges in many states leave large jury verdicts undisturbed. There are, of course, sanctions for lawyers who make frivolous claims, but they are rarely imposed.

Particularly aggrieved are the doctors whose insurance premiums have dramatically escalated in light of recent trends toward large jury verdicts in malpractice cases.

Doctors claim that they are being squeezed economically, and stigmatized professionally, by patients who see a chance to cash in when, through no fault of the physician, the treatment fails to effect a cure.

Consumer groups claim lawyers are producing higher-priced stepladders. Women's groups say divorce settlements are inadequate. As more and more people litigate, more and more litigants are dissatisfied with the result and the personal and economic cost.

The lawyers, on the other hand, claim they are being singled out unfairly. They contend they are a powerless minority unequipped to defend themselves politically.

They assert that Bush is punishing them because Clinton and his wife are lawyers, because the American Bar Association invited Hillary Clinton and Anita Hill to address their national convention, and because the Republicans failed to get much mileage with the voters out of their "family values" plank.

What the Republicans say absurd, say the lawyers. The New York State trial lawyers' association last week accused



Vice President Quayle: scoring points

Marlin Fitzwater: disdain claim

Bush and Quayle of making "fundamentally false" attacks on the legal profession based on "questionable research".

Some of the "questionable research" is the work of Walter Olson, a senior fellow of the Manhattan Institute, a Conservative think tank.

Olson, in a much talked-about book written last year, *The Litigation Explosion*, pos-

its that "for all the many successes of American society, our system of civil litigation is a grotesque failure, a big word around the world for expense, rancour and irrationality." The book points to a parade of lawyer horrors: unseemly advertising, the contingent-fee syndrome, discovery abuses, intellectually dishonest experts, punitive damages and activist judges who expand jurisdiction beyond reasonable limits or abrogate contracts they deem unreasonable.

Olson pleads essentially for "fair play in litigation". He states that we should work toward a law that "provides a remedy both to those who are mistreated in a wider society and to those who are mistreated by the workings of the law itself". Olson advocates due process protections for civil defendants equivalent to those attaching to criminal defen-

dants. Only then will litigation become "an exception, a last resort, a necessary evil at the margins of our common life".

Like Olson, the Republicans offer few specific solutions.

In taking on the lawyers, they have made a calculated risk. They alienate few of the faithful. Clinton has received nearly \$2.6 million (about £1.4 million) from lawyers: Bush has received \$1.3 million.

More voters than not may view lawyers as unprincipled. More conservatives and moderates may view lawyers as liberal since they are advocates for the victim in many cases.

However, there are also moderate voters whose sense of fair play may be offended if they think that Bush's attack on lawyer is — read his lips — a buzzword for denying poor people access to the courts.

The downside of Bush's strategy is that the organised bar could be a dangerous adversary. Like Churchill, lawyers make their living with their pen and their tongue.

The American Bar Association has already hired a Washington consulting firm to help to restore its image.

The ABA's membership is only one-third Democratic, and there are many Republicans out there who may resent this attack on their integrity and honour and are ready to fight back.

In coming months, the American Bar may shed its

Hearing mercantile cases in the regions saves both time and travel

Bringing commercial courts to the people

Lawyers say the courts are badly needed. Both cities are thriving commercial centres. Birmingham is arguably the second largest commercial centre outside London with over 17,000 writs issued in 1991, and lawyers in Leeds service Yorkshire and Humberside which have the largest number of plots per head outside London.

The problem facing them at the moment is that civil cases have to compete for court time with criminal matters

The scheme has been hailed as an unprecedented success by lawyers and clients

which, since they involve the liberty of the subject, are afforded priority.

Circuit judges and district judges do not generally have the power to grant commercial injunctions and occasionally no judge is available to grant commercial interlocutory injunctions.

It therefore becomes necessary for practitioners to travel to London or other court centres to make the applications. Birmingham solicitor Charles King-

Farlow says this wastes time and money. The strongest card in the campaign for courts in Leeds and Birmingham has been the success of the Manchester and Liverpool mercantile lists, which have been so popular that an additional judge has been appointed to cope with the growing demand.

The first judge responsible for these lists, Judge Kershaw, reads all the papers in advance for a case and summonses are shorter than they would be before a district judge. He deals with urgent applications for injunctions in commercial matters at short notice.

The major problem for lawyers in Birmingham and Leeds is finding a suitably qualified commercial barrister who is prepared to take on the job of judge for the mercantile courts. Successful commercial silks with seven or eight years' experience as a QC earn three to four times the £61,600 which the new mercantile judges would receive as circuit judges. Even if the post is at senior circuit judge level the salary of £68,400 is still well below that earned as a commercial QC.

Leeds barrister Brian Walsh QC says the new judge would probably have to relocate. "Most commercial practices one would be thinking of would be based elsewhere. However despite a reduction in earnings there are compensations in moving to the north-east where the quality of life is excellent."

Walsh says the establishment of a commercial court in Leeds, which now seems likely, should be just part of a process of devolution of the court system in Britain, which he believes is too centralised in London.

There are very good grounds for having more and more work tried where it originates. This also applies to judicial review cases. Litigants should be able to have access to legal advice and a court where they work," he said.

SEAN WEBSTER

• The author writes for the *Solicitors' Journal*.

The Bench needs a judgment for more pay

English judges are less assertive than some of their foreign colleagues in presenting pay claims. Unlike judges in France and Austria, they do not take strike action. They do not bring legal proceedings alleging that they have a constitutional right to a pay increase in line with inflation, a claim unsuccessfully advanced by 140 federal judges in the US Court of Claims in 1977. It is difficult to envisage an Old Bailey judge following the precedent set by a judge in Grenada in 1986 who walked out of an important criminal trial and refused to return until he was paid his overdue salary. By contrast with Sudan, where in 1981 the president accepted the resignation of 290 judges aggrieved about low pay, in this country such matters are normally resolved in private.

It is, then, an indication of the strength of the grievance now felt by many of the English judiciary that their pay has become a matter of public debate.

Earlier this year, the Top Salaries Review Body recommended increases of 20 to 30 per cent. The government decided to limit pay rises to 4 per cent. Circuit judges now earn almost £66,000. High Court judges receive more than £87,000, and law lords more than £103,000.

At the end of July, Lord Justice Parker used his retirement speech from the Court of Appeal to point out that the review body had reported that in the previous seven years "the salaries of the top groups within the review body's remit, which included the judiciary, have in real terms fallen by 3 per cent, whilst at the same time average earnings in Great Britain have risen by 22 per cent in real terms and the earnings of equivalent groups in the private sector have risen by 41 per cent".

As for the adversary system, it is as old as England and as American as "Ma's blueberry pie". This system may be costly, wasteful and contentious, but the legal system is the keeper of our sacred right to justice.

This is not likely to change much in the near future; and with all there is to talk about, it is astonishing that President Bush would make the legal system a campaign issue.

• The author is a litigator with *Bread, Abbott & Morgan*, a New York law firm.

The level of judicial salaries also sets the scale for other appointments, such as chairmen of tribunals and recorders. Parsimonious pay increases will have similarly adverse effects on the willingness of lawyers to perform such important functions.

Judges have won previous pay disputes with the government. In 1873, Gladstone wanted to reduce the salaries of High Court judges. Chief Justice Bovill wrote to Lord Chancellor Selborne pointing out that "since the judges' salaries were fixed, everything, especially house rent, servants and horses, has become very much more expensive". The prime minister had to withdraw his proposal.

In 1953, the judges successfully resisted a general economy measure of a cut of 20 per cent in all official salaries. Harold Laski wrote to tell Mr Justice Holmes of the US Supreme Court that "one judge is so indignant that he has refused to pay his super-tax and challenged the revenue people to sue him for it". Lord Chancellor Sankey recorded in a memorandum that the judges were "in a mutinous mood" and "rather bent upon giving trouble unless their demands were satisfied".

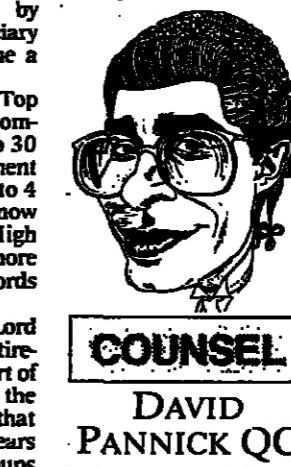
The judiciary deserves to win the present pay dispute. Four arguments are presented by those who defend low pay increases for judges. None of them has any force. First, it is said that by the standards of most people judges earn a very large sum of money. This is true, but irrelevant to questions of supply and demand that govern the quality of the Bench. Second, in a recession the country cannot afford large pay increases.

This is false. As Lord Justice Parker observed, the total pay bill for all the groups within the review body's remit was less than one quarter of 1 per cent of the total national pay bill.

Third, lawyers can always be found to fill vacancies on the Bench. This is true but ignores the vital question of the quality of appointments. Fourth, it would be unseemly for judges to receive pay increases when others are having to tighten their belts. But if the case for larger pay increases is made out on its merits, the argument is not weakened because some people may wrongly fail to understand the justification for those increases.

The root of the problem now, as it was in 1873 and 1953, is that pay rates for an independent judiciary should not be set by the executive, the most frequent client of the courts. A system of independent and binding arbitration should be introduced as soon as possible.

• The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



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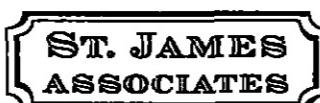
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The Joint Disciplinary Scheme, which was set up in 1979 jointly by the ICAEW, the ICAS and the ACCA, is now being fundamentally restructured. The Scheme contains the procedures for investigating and regulating the professional and business conduct, efficiency and competence of members and member firms which give rise to questions of public concern. As a result of the reorganisation, the investigative function of the Scheme is to be placed under the control of a new appointee, to be known as the Attorney.

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UK companies can sue successfully in the US. William Manser explains how

Britons win in America

In recent weeks, Standard Chartered, the UK-based international banking group, has been awarded or has settled claims in the United States totalling \$400 million (about £210 million). These successes — against two of the world's biggest accounting firms — provide evidence that British companies need not be put off litigation in the US if they prepare their ground, obtain the best local counsel and actively manage the process.

The history of the claims goes back to 1988. That year Standard Chartered sold the United Bank of Arizona, incurring a considerable loss and its Hong Kong branch lent \$90 million to Miniscribe, a Colorado-based disc-drive manufacturer, that was later to go into Chapter XI bankruptcy. It so happened that in the same year Standard Chartered set up a group legal department, the first in its 130-year history. When the losses were exposed, the department took responsibility for pursuing claims against the respective auditors, putting its faith in a Phoenix firm with a growing reputation.

The first claim in Arizona was against Price Waterhouse, the original auditors to United Bank. When Standard Chartered had bought the bank in the previous year, it had insisted on warranties for the bank's predicted continuing financial condition.

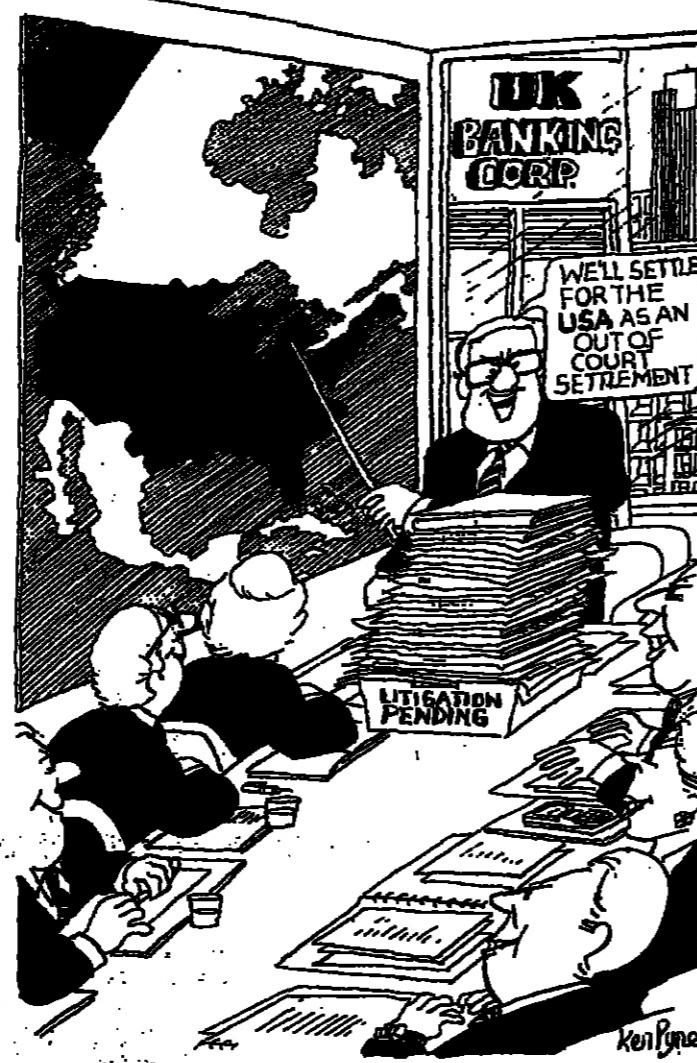
In the action that followed, Standard Chartered argued that it had relied on the audited accounts and on Price Waterhouse's stated knowledge of the bank.

During the trial, however, it became clear that Price Waterhouse had used inexperienced, unsupervised auditors and therefore failed to recognize a fundamental breakdown in internal controls and \$60 million of unreported loan losses.

During trial, the Price Waterhouse engagement partner testified that in the 12 years he had been on the audit, he had never seen a loan file and did not understand the bank's system of internal controls.

Staff accountants who purported to test the collectability of loans did not understand such things as the difference between a borrower's gross and net income, or what a letter of credit was.

Price Waterhouse unsuccessfully tried to persuade the jury that its audits met auditing standards. According to trial testimony, it cost



Price Waterhouse more than \$2 million for an accounting expert from Coopers & Lybrand to testify on its behalf. Price Waterhouse's damages expert, who was paid \$1.5 million, agreed that \$338 million was a "reasonable estimate" of the loss suffered by Standard Chartered on its investment in United Bank.

After an 11-month trial, Price Waterhouse was ordered to pay the full amount of the claim, based on Arizona securities law, negligence and misrepresentation. The Miniscribe case in Colorado also involved a negligence action

against auditors. This time Coopers & Lybrand. Miniscribe had been audited by Coopers for several years. Its management was led by appointees of Hambrecht & Quist, a San Francisco-based investment

bank with an equity stake in the company.

Miniscribe had achieved impressive rates of growth through the 1980s and was seeking to shore up a flagging market by employing devices that gave the appearance of increased sales, stock and receivables. Its most notorious practice was to package bricks instead of computer discs and claim

them as sales. And it began booking products sold on a sale-or-return basis as annual sales.

Standard Chartered argued that Cooper was aware of the latter practice and willingly joined in the deception. When the inevitable happened, there was little of value left in the company for creditors and shareholders. Individual actions were then begun by numerous plaintiffs against Coopers & Lybrand, Hambrecht & Quist and several directors.

In one action earlier this year, a jury awarded Texan bond holders \$55 million, a figure subsequently reduced to well under \$100 million in an out-of-court settlement. Standard Chartered's case was consolidated with others in Denver.

The first hearing was due to take place this month. However, the court instructed a compulsory mediation process involving all the parties. At one stage, more than 40 lawyers were involved in the negotiations.

An element of near farce was introduced into the proceedings when, at a key stage, negotiations were being conducted between New York, London and a call box in Euro Disney, the temporary retreat of Standard Chartered's head of legal services. In spite of the almost byzantine difficulty of satisfying all the parties, agreement was ultimately reached. Standard Chartered settled for \$62 million payable over time.

The experiences highlight several fundamental differences from the UK system — the settlement processes, the use of juries and the level of the potential risks and rewards. The law, too, is different. The Caparo case, recently given a surprising boost by the Cadbury Committee, would have severely restricted similar claims in the UK.

The story is not yet at an end. Price Waterhouse has stated its intention to appeal. To do this, the accounting firm must put up a bond of 120 per cent of the award: more than \$400 million. If it gets over this hurdle, Standard Chartered will aim to restore some of its own claims which were lost on the way — particularly exemplary and treble damages. Standard Chartered's legal team seems unlikely to be able to enjoy Euro Disney undisturbed for a while yet.

• The author is the group public affairs manager of Standard & Chartered Bank.

At one stage, more than 40 lawyers were involved

them as sales. And it began booking products sold on a sale-or-return basis as annual sales.



Learning on the job: students at Macfarlanes, a City firm, on a visit to the Law Courts

Legal lessons from the inside

In a difficult job market, work experience can give students a good start

The senior partner of a leading City firm said: "To make it work properly requires an enormous investment of time and effort by us. In view of the number of applications for traineeships we get every year, I am starting to doubt the value of it from our point of view. Sifting applications take a lot of time."

Notwithstanding the over-supply of candidates for traineeships, top quality applicants will continue to be sought. The vacation scheme offers a good opportunity for firms to put across a favourable image, which will radiate through the time.

In most cases, there is enthusiasm among students for the firms they visit. Almost without exception, they apply to come back for a traineeship. And in some cases, they will have made a big enough impression when they subsequently apply. Above all, the vacation scheme gives students with forceful characters a chance to stand out.

"Before coming on my attachment to a City law firm, I spent a year at the University of Strasbourg," said Emma McVey, a Leicester University student, studying law and French. "There is a growing demand for lawyers to be able to speak a foreign language and during my attachment I had the chance to use my French on a transaction. I think it gave me a chance to show I could be useful."

Of course, not all the students will realise their ambitions to work for top firms because the recruitment round over the next year or two will probably be tight. However, it is possible that by the time the other graduates qualify in the mid 1990s Britain will be back in boom and firms will again be fighting for the services of graduates.

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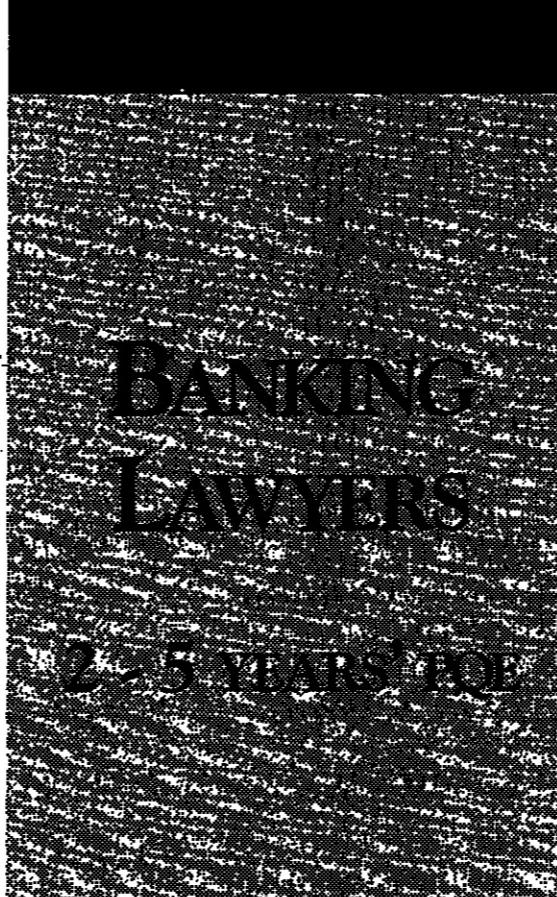
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Taylor checks Glamorgan revival

Kent team ignored by selectors is set for second place

By IVO TENNANT

CANTERBURY (first day of four; Glamorgan won toss); Kent, with five first-innings wickets in hand, are 24 runs behind Glamorgan

IN TIMES of recession, becoming runners-up in the county championship assumes a considerable significance. Britannia Assurance's prize is, after all, £23,000, and after two years of severe cutbacks, Kent are in need of such money as much as any supposedly less-fashionable county. Through bowling Glamorgan out for 158, they are that much closer to gaining it.

Their chase for their last match at Canterbury to play on a part of the square that was relaid three years ago and has not been used since. It is, in cricketing parlance, a "result" pitch. A fourth day is not likely to be needed. A draw, of course, is not the slightest use to Kent.

In the morning, there were some dark mutterings from their captain and coach over the selection of the two England parties. They felt they should have had a player or three included, although in the case of McCague, self-interest would have come into it.

If chosen by Australia this

winter or for their tour here next summer, he will not play for Kent again. Although born in Northern Ireland, he will then be classified as an overseas player. Loathe though Kent will be to lose the bowler who had them contesting the championship last month, they already have Hooper returning in 1993.

Neither, for that matter, did Glamorgan have a single player in either party. Morris (1,564 runs at an average of 48) had plenty of cause to look glum, as he did after dragging on a wide one early in the innings, but he has a wonderfully cheerful countenance.

His was one of five wickets taken by legspinners, who must also be wondering whether his time at Test level has gone.

The ball swung around in the morning and Glamorgan's seamers had it moving off the pitch in the afternoon. These were just the conditions for Barwick, who was tantalisingly short of a length. There was also some weariness about much of the batting.

Even Richards lacked his swagger of old, although to what extent this was to do with the first half-century of the day and, ably assisted by Marsh, enabled Kent to finish the day with a first-innings lead in sight.

Fleming bowled him through the gate and gave full expression to his feelings. Glamorgan were then 62 for four and surpassed their lowest score of the season only through Metson fanning the strike.

Otherwise, only Dale and Cottier made runs. It was no different when Kent batted, not at any rate until Taylor and Marsh came together.

Ward was beaten by one that Thomas, Glamorgan's 17-year-old from Llanelli, cut back at him and Benson was taken at the wicket through failing to counter excessive bounce.

The next three batsmen went for ducks. Hooper was struck on a foot by Watkinson and Barwick had Cowdrey and Fleming taken at short leg by James, prodding forward in each case. One lasted half an hour, the other one ball. At 55 for five Kent's innings promised no riches, literal or metaphorical.

In such circumstances there can be few more reliable batsmen than Taylor. Accurately, with stealth all around the wicket, he reached the first half-century of the day and, ably assisted by Marsh, enabled Kent to finish the day with a first-innings lead in sight.

Fleming follows through: the Kent all-rounder in action at Canterbury, where he bowled Richards for four

Gooch finds no rest as Essex falter

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

THE CHAMPIONSHIP won, the winter tour parties picked, Graham Gooch must have been hoping for a relaxed time in Essex's final two games of the season. No such luck.

He did hand over the captaincy to Paul Prichard and drop himself down the order to No. 6 against Derbyshire at Derby yesterday, but had no chance no time to put his feet up. With Ian Bishop, the West Indian fast bowler, on the rampage, Gooch was at the crease with Essex 21 for four and it was only his sturdy innings of 53 that prevented a complete rout of the champions.

As it was, they were bowled out for 96, Bishop taking six for 18 in 11 overs, and thus trailed by 130 on first innings. Derbyshire, keen to improve on last season's third place, had earlier collapsed from 152 for three, with Derek Pringle taking five for 63, his best of the season.

Alan Wells and Neil Lenham came close to a new Sussex third-wicket record at Old Trafford. Lenham, on 136, fell to a jugged catch at square leg when they had put on 263, 25 short of the Ranjitsinhji-Killick partnership, also against Lancashire, at Hove in 1901. With Sussex 331 for three, Wells is 135 not out for his fifth century of the season.

Nottinghamshire have been well served by several of their young players, not least Mark Sazely, who fell seven short of his fifth half-century in seven innings, and David Pennington, who began the season as captain in 1987, has directed the 2nd XI this summer with his customary shrewdness. Always the puppet master, pulling the strings at his bowler's elbow, he saw Northamptonshire manage only three boundaries in their entire innings.

Mccoy has remained cheerful and dedicated in the past two years at a time when his left-arm spin bowling skills and confidence have inexplicably waned. Mccoy was given the man-of-the-match award by Bob Willis after he and Andy Smith, the off-spinner, each finished with four wickets on a pitch which had less life than usual.

Winning finish for Greig

By JACK BAILEY

TRENT BRIDGE (Surrey won toss; Surrey II beat Northamptonshire II by eight wickets)

SURREY were hardly extended yesterday when they won the final of the Bain Clarkson Trophy, the 55-over competition for county second XIs (Richard Streeton writes). Surrey were set to make 200 to win, and Alikhan shared two chancery stands with Atkins and Robinson to ensure victory with 5.3 overs to spare.

Atkins helped to add 37 for the first wicket before Robinson, who hit ten fours, dominated a stand of 104. Northamptonshire have a good record in second-team cricket this season but failed to do themselves justice, with three absences with England Under-19 a contributory factor.

Surrey, beaten finalists in this event last season, need only one point from their closing fixture in the championship this year to complete the 2nd XI double. It would bring an appropriate curtain fall for Ian Greig and Keith Medlycott, two of Kent's favourite sons, who are about to leave the staff.

Both have served Surrey well in different ways and contributed much on this occasion. Greig, recalled to the game for a five-year stint as first-team captain in 1987, has directed the 2nd XI this summer with his customary shrewdness. Always the puppet master, pulling the strings at his bowler's elbow, he saw Northamptonshire manage only three boundaries in their entire innings.

Mccoy has remained cheerful and dedicated in the past two years at a time when his left-arm spin bowling skills and confidence have inexplicably waned. Mccoy was given the man-of-the-match award by Bob Willis after he and Andy Smith, the off-spinner, each finished with four wickets on a pitch which had less life than usual.

Safety first by Australia

Colombo: Australia, who lead the Test series against Sri Lanka 1-0, are not willing to gamble with their team for the third and final Test match, which begins here today.

Allan Border, the Australia captain, said the eleventh place in the side would go to Mike Whitney, Tony Dodemaide or Shane Warne.

Sri Lanka are in two minds whether they should retain Ramesh Kaluwitharana, the wicketkeeper.

R S Mendis, U C Hettiarachchi, P A Guneratne, P A de Silva, P B Tillekeratne, R Kukukulam, S T Jayasinha, C P H de Alwis, S D Anuradha, E A R de Silva, Wickremesinghe, A P de Silva, R P Daskalakis, A P Tillekeratne, M A Taylor, J M McCoy, D C Boon, D M Studd, D C Whistler, G J E Morris, J A Healy, C J McDonald, S K Warne, M R Whitney, A C Dodemaide, O Manyo.

Bryson's batting rescues Surrey

By JACK BAILEY

TRENT BRIDGE (Surrey won toss; Surrey II beat Northamptonshire II by eight wickets)

THIS September four-day formula, with the day's play starting at 10.30am, throws up some strange happenings. Not long before lunch yesterday, it looked as though two days might be enough to get a result. Surrey were 71 for four.

He faced only 90 balls and hit ten fours, several of them from spanking drives through the covers.

There were not too many of those to be seen from Surrey's early batsmen, Lynch excepted. The initial damage to their cause was done by two experienced hands in the shape of Lewis and Evans with two wickets apiece.

Although Lynch weighed in with a flurry of fours to take Surrey to 70-4, his demise, caught behind off Pennington, and a fine diving catch at slip by Pollard off the same bowler to get rid of the potentially exciting Brown saw Surrey on the slide again.

Pennant's spell of glory was complete when he clung to a hard, low return from Martin Bicknell, who looked suitably aggrieved. With Surrey on 123-9, Northamptonshire were in clover.

As it was, Bryson's last-wicket stand of 84 in 26 overs with Pollard gave Surrey something to bat at and Northamptonshire, with seven wickets left, are evenly poised, the clatter of wickets in today's early-morning conditions cannot altogether be discounted.

Nottinghamshire have been well served by several of their young players, not least Mark Sazely, who fell seven short of his fifth half-century in seven innings, and David Pennington, who began the season as captain in 1987, has directed the 2nd XI this summer with his customary shrewdness. Always the puppet master, pulling the strings at his bowler's elbow, he saw Northamptonshire manage only three boundaries in their entire innings.

Bryson they bore a chastened air. Pollard's dismissals from the second ball of their innings did little to relieve the gloom, but the tall, left-handed Sazely did at least restore order.

Durham conceded centuries to Haydn and Hardman as Somerset piled up 398 for five at Taunton, where Ian Botham managed only 11 overs before retiring from the fray with a shoulder injury.

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Botham conceded centuries to Haydn

Sánchez family enjoys a Labor Day outing at Flushing Meadow

FROM ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN NEW YORK

WHILE New York celebrated the Labor Day holiday in appropriate style yesterday, the morning shift at Flushing Meadow had clocked off well before midday. Steffi Graf and Arantxa Sánchez Vicario were clearly set on having a free afternoon, finishing their US Open fourth-round matches in 48 and 44 minutes, respectively, and losing just five games between them.

The pair will now meet in the quarter-final, a case of irresistible force and immovable object on yesterday's form, though Graf leads their series 15-2 and has won their five encounters this year.

Predictably, Graf, the No. 2 seed, was too powerful for the former world junior champion, Florentina Labat, of Argentina. Labat, ranked 59, won two games in each set, which was about par for the course. By the time Jim Courier and John McEnroe had taken to the court, Graf was putting

her feet up back in her plush new apartment in New York. More surprisingly, Zina Garrison, the No. 14 seed, disintegrated against the Spaniard, the statistics of her pedigree flashing by like telegraph poles from an express train. The American won 11 points in the first set, eight in the second, and won her one and only game after 38 minutes. It was not quite the advertisement the heads of the women's game were looking for, particularly after the encouraging signs of competitiveness in the opening week.

Ever the perfectionist, ever setting herself new standards, as much to maintain her own interest in the game, I suspect, Graf was critical of her inconsistency. "That is a problem I have at the moment," she said. "I am getting more critical and starting to get upset with my game really quickly. I want to play better than I am. Consistency will be important against Arantxa because she does not give away any points."

A shoulder injury, more niggling than terminal, and a clay-court season extended through the Federation Cup and the Olympics has not been ideal preparation for the US Open. But Sánchez Vicario, who has shouldered an enormous workload in singles and doubles this year, could voice the same complaint, and there was no sign of fatigue as she merely outlasted Garrison.

"You change from grass, then on to clay and change quickly to hard courts. It is not easy," Graf said. "You don't have any time to rest." Certainly, Monica Seles and Gabriela Sabatini, who rested for much of the summer, playing neither in Barcelona nor Frankfurt, should be fresher when the serious business starts in the quarterfinals.

For Marisa Sánchez Vicario, her daughter's easy victory provided considerable relief after the emotional torment of watching her two sons play each other the previous day. She had lasted just a set before retreating to the sanctuary of the players' lounge. It was the third time, and the



Return with interest: Sánchez Vicario during her victory over Garrison

first for 57 years, that brothers had played each other at the US national championships.

Emilio, who had won the previous seven meetings, recovered from 2-1 down to assert his seniority over Javier in five sets. "It makes my life so difficult," Emilio said. "At other times, it was like he was playing his older brother.

Now he treats me like a normal player."

Victories came equally hard for Boris Becker and Ivan Lendl, who now square up to each other in the last 16. Both dropped sets, Becker to Davis Cup colleague Carl-Uwe Steibl, Lendl to Chuck Adams, a brash young Californian. Adams even had the cheek

to lecture the three-times champion on the finer arts of the game, suggesting that the No. 9 seed was not hitting the ball as hard as he once did.

Nor will Lendl be cheered by Steibl's assessment of his next opponent. "I think he's going to reach the top of his game soon. He was hitting the ball harder than last week."

FROM RODDY FORSYTH
IN SOLOTHURN, SWITZERLAND

ON THE principle that good beginning makes a good end Andy Roxburgh has been candid about his expectation of Scotland's opening World Cup qualifying tie against Switzerland in Berne tomorrow night. "I certainly believe that we can take a point out of this match and, frankly, if our approach is right — if we play as we did against the CIS in the European championship in Sweden — then I think we can beat Switzerland."

The Scotland coach said yesterday: "This is probably the time of year which suits Scotland best. The players not only feel fresh, they are keen to build on their good work in Sweden and I feel we are in for a lively game if for no other reason than that whenever Scotland and Switzerland meet there are always goals."

With this remark Roxburgh touched on a point of controversy between him and Switzerland's English coach, Roy Hodgson, who has disappeared McCoist, the leading goalscorer in the Scottish party, and suggested that the Rangers forward's failure to score in Sweden was an indication that he is short of class.

Roxburgh's report was to say: "I am really amazed how helpful Swiss managers have been to us. Last year when we were 2-0 down at half time in our European championship qualifying match in Berne, Uli Stielike warned his players how dangerous we could be when we were down and I am sure his words were ringing in their ears when we came storming back into the game."

"This time," Roy Hodgson has said, "we have to motivate one of our key players; as for Ally's record, the facts speak for themselves." McCoist, inevitably, has a

sharp rejoinder of his own to

make "Switzerland? Oh, yes, I scored against them in their own stadium last year, didn't I? I did miss a penalty when we played them in Glasgow, though, so maybe that's what Roy Hodgson is thinking about."

McCoist will be offered the chance to make his point in a more active fashion tomorrow night because barring any mishap in training he will start the match. The identity of his partner remains in doubt because Roxburgh has still to decide whether to field Durie, who also scored against the Swiss in Berne, or Gallacher whose pace could be an important asset.

Dave Phillips will try to

upsurge his more famous compatriots, Ian Rush, Mark Hughes and Dean Saunders

and shoot Wales to victory over the Faeroe Islands in their World Cup qualifier in Cardiff tomorrow.

Phillips, who will be winning his fourth cap, has

helped Norwich to the top of

the Premier League with four

goals in six games but has

found the net only once dur

ing an international career that began in 1984.

Kingsley Black, who seems

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Billy Bingham, the Northern

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World Cup qualifier against

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Lavia at Lansdowne Road

tomorrow. The Aston player

sustained an ankle injury on

Saturday.

Weather-beaten

Cycling: Gethin Butler, the

national champion, coped

with the rain that soaked him

for most of his ride in the

Poole Wheelers 12-hour time-

trial during his bid to take over

the lead in the season-long

British best-all-rounder com-

petition, but finished six miles

short of the distance he needed

to oust Kevin Dawson as lead-

er of the competition.

Northern hopes

Rugby league: Bradford

Northern are hoping this

week to finally sign Deryck

Fox, Featherstone Rovers dis-

affected Great Britain scrum

half, after his rejection of a

£130,000 move to Hull, de-

spite an agreement reached by

the clubs.

Together again

Badminton: Gill Clark and

Gillian Gowers, England's

most successful players, have

agreed to renew the partner-

ship which surprisingly split

18 months ago.

FOOTBALL

Scots' leading man
relishes chance to
reprise Swiss role

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SNOWBALL IN BRIEF

O'Sullivan adds White to his hit list

Ronnie O'Sullivan, arguably the most naturally talented 16-year-old snooker player to emerge since Jimmy White, enhanced his already considerable reputation with a 5-1 win over White himself in the third round of the European Open in Blackpool yesterday. O'Sullivan needed only 51 minutes to reach the last 32 of a world ranking event for the second time, having progressed to the corresponding stage of the Regal Welsh Open by beating Eddie Charlton, the Australian veteran, 5-1 on Sunday.

Rolling on

Bowls: Tony Allcock, the world singles champion, and Andrew Wills, who shared in an EBA triples success in 1990, twice came from behind to beat Tony Harley and Roy Chamberlain, from Christchurch, Wisbech in the second round of the EBA pairs championship at Worthing yesterday.

They meet Tommy Armstrong and David Holt, the 1987 champions, from Bolton, in the third round this morning.

Out in force

Hockey: Jane Sixsmith is one of nine Great Britain Olympic bronze medal-winners named in the England squad to take on the Barcelona champions, Spain, in the Typhoon Tea Cup at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham, on October 3. Also selected are: J. C. Dunn, L. Sherriff, M. Davies, J. T. Sutton (Colchester), A. Cleaton and K. Johnson (Lancaster), C. Culkin and F. Law (Highgate), J. Young (Harrow) and R. Young (Finsbury). □

Scotland yesterday qualified for the semi-finals of the Inter-Nations Cup in Singapore by beating Belgium 3-0. It was their fourth successive victory.

Weather-beaten

Cycling: Gethin Butler, the national champion, coped with the rain that soaked him for most of his ride in the Poole Wheelers 12-hour time-trial during his bid to take over the lead in the season-long British best-all-rounder competition, but finished six miles short of the distance he needed to oust Kevin Dawson as leader of the competition.

Taylor said that this season all clubs will co-operate after having had the chance to attend a seminar on drug testing. But he is concerned that players have not been given enough information.

Vinny Jones is expected to finalise his return to Wimbledon today in a £700,000 transfer from Chelsea. They will reinvest the money in a central defender after learning that injury will keep Paul Elliott out for a year.

Paul Mardon, the Birmingham City centre half, has joined Liverpool on trial with a view to a £1 million move.

Last season the PFA advised

its members not to co-operate with "random" drug testing because its members had not been given any information about the new procedures laid down by the International Olympic Committee.

That was the suggestion of the makers of a television programme screened on BBC2 last night, *Standing Room Only*. The programme produced evidence from a fitness consultant in the north of England, who said he had enquiries from several players wanting advice on the use of undetectable steroids.

But Taylor said: "There has been drug testing in football since 1978 and it has failed to produce any positives, other than where players have been taking cold, asthma or slimming remedies."

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its members not to co-operate with "random"

THE TIMES SPORT

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8 1992

New regime falls into old routine of rejecting England's most popular cricketer

Bitter Gower is left in the cold

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

DAVID Gower discovered yesterday that one England manager is just as capable of the sins of omission as another. Micky Stewart, his old bête noire, may have stood aside for Keith Fletcher, but the ambivalence to Gower's charm, flair and record is as strong as ever and it is to ruin the tour of India and Sri Lanka in the new year.

It is the third time in four overseas tours that the most popular cricketer in England has been left out, this time on the particularly slim grounds of age. Fletcher, not bothering to disguise his own influence on the decision, said: "The thing which concerned me about David was that it would give us three batsmen in their late 30s. I would not want England to lose three established players at a similar time."

It is a reasoning which will find as little favour with the general public as it does with Gower himself. Last night, his reaction was justifiably bitter: "I would have hoped the team would be selected on quality and experience," he said. "But it seems these things are not important any more."

So, after his comeback 73 and his steady, match-winning innings at Headingly, did most people in England. In a

five-hour meeting, however, the selectors once more chose to differ and it was left to Graham Gooch, whose own support for Gower was overwhelmed, to telephone him with the news shortly before the party was announced.

"To say I'm disappointed is an understatement," Gower said. "I thought the longer I heard nothing the better it would be for me. Graham came up with the news later than I had expected. I thought I had done enough."

But by then, Gower must have assumed the worst, having been featured in one of the most shambolic cases of a leaked international team the Test and County Cricket Board can have presided over. For the sake of the players concerned and the image of the game in general, never again should it select a side and then wait three days to make it public.

Gower is the senior batsman abandoned to find room for Mike Gatting, one of two players who predictably return after the contentiously early lifting of their international bans. Far from predictable, however, was a third reprieved "rebel", Paul Jarvis, who joins Gatting and John Emburey. If Gower is the unluckiest cricketer in the country today, did Jarvis must comfortably be the most fortunate.

I doubt if England can ever before have chosen, as prospective strike bowler, someone who last took five wickets in an innings three years ago and who has subsequently been dropped by his county for disciplinary reasons, unsuccessfully sought his release and spent as much time injured as fit.

Jarvis' six previous Tests left him with a bowling average of 50.57 and Ted Dexter's description of this choice as "a filler" barely does it justice. Indeed, when BBC radio introduced an interview with Jarvis and only silence followed, it seemed the player himself was speechless.

Playing with Gower for sympathy yesterday was Jack Russell, yet again shamefully sacrificed for the shortcomings of others. Fletcher confessed that the selectors felt it impossible to include a specialist wicketkeeper when nobody else was capable of doing the all-rounder's job.

So Alec Stewart, greatly against his will, must keep wicket and drop down the batting order, while Russell, extraordinarily, is even passed over in favour of Richard



Back in the fold: a happy Gatting reflects upon his England recall at a deserted Lord's yesterday

Even Yorkshiremen left stunned by selections

By PETER BALL

Blakely for the second wicketkeeping position. His supposed consolation comes from being made vice-captain of the A-team tour to Australia. I fancy he will not consider this a great swap.

Stewart's duties will also include captaining England in a Test match for the first time.

Gooch has been given permission to miss the 15-day stop in Sri Lanka at the end of the tour and Stewart will take over for the one Test and two one-day internationals there.

Gower's banishment — which, incidentally, the player himself believes to be unconnected with the premature publication of his critical autobiography — has allowed both Graeme Hick and Neil Fairbrother to tour, the latter markedly lucky to be regarded as a long-term, left-handed successor to Gower. Dexter said Fairbrother "could be the start of a new phenomenon, someone who gains confidence from one-day runs and becomes a Test player". Many of us remain to be convinced.

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Gooch as the second wicket-keeper is likely to provoke a response in Gloucestershire, Glamorgan and possibly Lancashire, the selection of Paul Jarvis may raise a few eyebrows even in Yorkshire.

Jarvis had never really lived up to his potential as the most promising of his generation of England fast bowlers, possibly suffering from being overburdened in his youth with his county. But since his decision to take the South African money in 1989 "to pay the mortgage", his career had gone backwards.

Even Jarvis was surprised to be the third reserve rebel, a rotovator hired for use on his new garden yesterday still

sitting unused at tea-time as he fielded the demands of press and television. "I didn't get the wickets I felt I needed this season," he said. "I wasn't getting the fives and sixes in an innings."

Jarvis has not taken five wickets in an innings since the abortive South African tour as injury and doubts about his attitude affected his play.

In 1990, after finishing a troubled season with a disappointing 37 wickets at an average of 37.64, he asked to leave Yorkshire, but was persuaded to see out the remaining year of his contract.

It was even more uneventful. After three games he damaged a hamstring and did not play again until the last match of the season, the longest hamstring injury in the history of professional

sport. Again his future with Yorkshire came into question, especially when Jarvis's hamstring injury recurred after his first game. In the end, after a further setback he returned against Leicestershire at Sheffield in July, taking four for 32. In all he has taken 36 wickets at an average of 29.38.

"A lot of things have happened since I went to South Africa," Jarvis said. "I think I've matured more as a person and a player. I've realised that cricket is what I want to do for Yorkshire and England, and I've really enjoyed playing the two months."

There has never been any question about Richard Blakely enjoying playing. Nor will there now be about the value of A team tours, for the player made a favourable impression on the England management as both touring team member and player on the tours to Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka under Fletcher.

"Obviously they are looking for keepers to be able to bat," Blakely said yesterday, but after beginning as an outstanding batting prospect who occasionally kept wicket, his batting had gone backwards.

In the past two years after he replaced Baird as the Yorkshire wicketkeeper, Blakely averaged under 30 and did not reach 1,000 runs in 1990 or 1991.

This season he has begun to recover with 1,014 runs so far at an average of 48.28. He has also claimed 48 victims behind the stumps, and although even his best friends would not claim he is a Russell or Metson, as great a luminary as Alan Knott has insisted on his ability behind the stumps.

Simon Barnes, page 28
 Kent in control, page 28



India bound: Jarvis (top) and Blakely celebrate

McLaren team brings in Andretti

By NORMAN HOWELL

RON Dennis, the owner of McLaren, sprung a surprise on Formula One motor racing yesterday when Michael Andretti was announced as replacement next season for Gerhard Berger, who has left for Ferrari.

Ironically, it is money that separates Mansell and Frank Williams in their negotiations for next season. The two seem further apart and, in an attempt to break the deadlock, it appears Mansell has asked for help from Renault. But the continuing attempts of Ayrton

Senna to secure a drive for Williams remain a problem.

Mario Andretti drove in Formula One from 1968 to 1982 and won a world championship with Lotus in 1978. It is an interesting move for McLaren as on both occasions that Andretti's son tested last year it rained.

But he is a winner — 26 Indy wins — as well as being keen to make his mark in Formula One. At the Canadian grand prix this year, Andretti and his father spent time at the McLaren motor home.

The signing of Andretti is

part of a long-term campaign by Dennis to reduce costs. Berger had to go because he asked for too much, while Senna is being made to sweat over his contract. Andretti has a one-year deal, plus the option of another year, and he will have come for less than Berger this year.

The presence of Dennis in the United States has led people to question whether he was not also looking for an engine, as it seems more likely that Honda will leave McLaren. A formal announcement is due this weekend at the Italian grand prix.

Anger as clubs call time on £13m deal

By LOUISE TAYLOR

THERE is to be no FA Carling Premier League. That was decided yesterday when a meeting of Premier League club chairmen at a London hotel ended with Ron Noades of Crystal Palace, leading a 14-man walkout.

Noades led the revolt after eight clubs voted against accepting a proposed £13 million, three-year sponsorship with Bass, the brewers which own the Carling label, because they felt it might conflict with their own individual sponsorships. Liverpool, for example, have a deal with Carlsberg, which was understood to be keen to renegotiate had Bass become involved in the Premier League.

A two-thirds majority — 15 votes — was needed to approve the deal, but at the last minute Queens Park Rangers changed sides and joined Leeds United, Arsenal, Liverpool, Manchester United, Everton, Nottingham Forest and Aston Villa in rejecting it.

Noades's 14, who had all voted in favour of the Bass deal, felt that the eight had banded together to block the sponsorship against the interests of the FA Premier League as a whole.

Brian Richardson, the Coventry chairman, who applauded Noades, said: "Not having the Bass sponsorship will cost Coventry around £350,000 a year. That represents one player that we cannot now afford to buy."

Rick Parry, the Premier League chief executive, said: "The fear of those who walked out was that the voting system has become a sham because eight clubs can get together and block decisions. I don't see any prospect of the Bass deal being revived. The clubs also rejected a centralised approach to other sponsors because of their own deals. We have a major rift. I am going to have to do some hard work

over the next few days to put it all back together again."

The Premier League rule book is intended to promote democracy, but Parry said: "The whole concept of one-club one-vote is proving unworkable. We have to devise a different way of operating. If there are block votes whenever issues are raised, we are not going to be able to take decisions. Walking out of meetings is not the answer. We have hit a brick wall with something of a thud."

Today, Parry will meet Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, who had misgivings about the Bass sponsorship, when he returns from Spain. Parry said: "The game will go on but discussions are needed within the next 24 hours. It is not realistic to let things remain in a vacuum for four days with the Premier League unable to take decisions."

Richardson, of Coventry, was optimistic that something could be salvaged with Bass. "There is nothing to stop 14 clubs forming individual deals with Bass. That would give them sponsorship of two-thirds of the league, and exposure from around 80 televised games."

A Bass spokesperson said: "We believe an excellent opportunity has been missed."

Resistance to the Bass sponsorship was heightened when, last month, the original rebel seven signed an agreement involving revolving advertising hoardings, with Dorna, a Swedish company. Speculation last night suggested Queens Park Rangers had joined the so-called platinum seven sponsored by Dorna.

Sir John Quinton, the Premier League chairman, yesterday confirmed that the "platinum seven" had not acted unconstitutionally in arranging their own perimeter advertising agreement.

England cap helps Ince's recovery

From STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

IN SANTANDER, SPAIN

GRAHAM Taylor has discovered a method of enticing players, who are supposedly less than fit to join an England squad. More persuasive than any legislation yet invented by the Football Association, it is called "rule one" and was used in the strange case of Paul Ince.

The story started to unfold on Sunday morning. Once Tony Adams had been withdrawn, Manchester United were informed that Gary Pallister would be required as his replacement for the international against Spain here tomorrow night.

United pointed out that several of their players, including Pallister and Ince, were suffering from a virus. Lawrie McMenemy, Taylor's assistant, was asked to check on their availability after the televised match against Leeds at Old Trafford.

When he did so, he found out not only that Ince was "out on his feet" but that David Batty, one of only three remaining midfield players in the party, would also be unable to travel. As had been feared, he had aggravated a troublesome ankle injury.

It was then, Taylor said yesterday, that "rule one" was applied. Alex Ferguson was asked to tell Ince, initially chosen on standby, that he was going to play against Spain and wouldn't be trained. In the words of the Manchester United manager, that "had a certain attraction and he was prepared to give it a try".

Instead of retiring to bed for three days, Ince reported for the flight from Luton yester-

day morning. By contrast, two members of the under-21 squad who had travelled down from Liverpool were summarily sent back in a chauffeur-driven car. Harkness and McManaman, after being examined by the England doctor, were considered insufficiently fit to be selected for tonight's game in Burgos.

"It has been a classic England manager's weekend," Taylor said. "On the end of a telephone." Apart from Adams and Batty, Wallace was also ruled out. Jones, Wright and Steven had been withdrawn earlier.

Taylor has no misgivings about promoting Ince, who admits that he has regularly been pulled out of England squads in the past. He insists that fate rather than his own indecision has on each occasion been the legitimate cause.

He was in contention for a place in the European championship squad, for example, until he damaged an ankle in April. "It is not a case of me not wanting to play for England," he stressed. Now, at the age of 24, he relishes the prospect of making his first senior appearance.

"Having watched him on television against Leeds, I think I'll give him another dose of that virus," Taylor said. "It was a very good performance and the pleasing thing was that, although it was a very competitive game and he was up against Batty, he played with a smile on his face."

White, Manchester City's prolific winger, promises to be another new boy in the line-up to be announced today. Among the more experienced representatives will be Platt and Walker, who travelled with Gascoigne and landed up the coast in Bilbao before joining their colleagues.

Qantas (and corporate): C Woods, L Green, D Walker, J Wright, S Pearce, D Mills, D Platt, P Ince, C Palmer, A Shilton, S Duncans, A Shearer.

□ Stephen Froggan, the Aston Villa mid-field player, who is qualified to play for the Republic of Ireland, has opted for England and will make his debut for the under-21 team tonight after originally withdrawing from the party.

Scotland ready, page 29
 Fans turned back, page 14

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